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THE ERA

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THEOPHILUS CHARLTON,
Actor and Author,
Producing own Plays and Comedies.

Perm. add., C/o "A.A."

GODFREY CLARKE.
Comedian. At liberty. Height 5ft. 8in., slim build; light, low, musical, straight, or Revue. 68, Golborne-rd., North Kensington, W. 10. Or c/o A.A., 32, Regent-street, W. 1.

JACK CRICHTON.
Principal Comedian.

Disengaged May 24.

Musical Comedy, Revue, Farce, &c.
First-class offers only.

This week, Winter Gardens Theatre, New Brighton.
Next week, 11, The Avenue, Cirencester.

MR. GEORGE DELAFORCE.
Disengaged May 31. This, P.O., Malton, Yorks; next, P.O., Ellesmere Port.

ROBERT DRYSDALE.
At liberty.
10, Claverton-st., S.W. 1, or A.A.

MR. W. H. GARBOIS.
Neilson-Terry Company.
G.T., Croydon; May 24, T.R., Brighton.

MR. FRED GROVE.
Address,
50, Gresham-rd., Brixton, S.W. 9.

MR. J. PITT HARDACRE.
Address, Touring Managers' Association, 1, King-street, W.C. 2.

MR. FREDERICK HARKER.
Dis. Town only.
A.A. Agency.

GEORGE P. POLSON.
Lord Messiger,
Taylor Platt's "Nurse Benson" Co.
Disengaged June 21.
Grand, Southampton; Grand, Swansea.

MR. LEONARD ROBSON
Disengaged. Lead. Baritone. 9, Gt. Ormond-st., W.C. 1.

MR. FRANK SEDDON,
Musical Director. "The Lads of the Village" Co. Music composed and arranged for Drama, Revue, Pantomime, &c. Address, May 17, Theatre Royal, Windsor.

MR. ARCHIE SELWYN,
Disengaged June 14. Offers invited. This week, New T., Birkenhead. Next, Pier, Eastbourne.

MR. CHARLES SEWELL.
Chas. Macdona's "Chinese Puzzle" Co. Disengaged June 14, term. of tour. Grand, Hull; next, Brixton Theatre, S.W.

WALTER H. TERRISS.
Com. and Aris. Old Men. Special Part. Dis. 51, Wordsworth-rd. Penge, S.E. 20.

MR. E. W. THOMAS.
Morris Caner in "The Cinderella Man." Butt and Nare's Co., en route. At lib., May 15.

E. W. THOMAS and AGNES KNIGHTS. Disengaged.
7, Grafton-sq., Clapham-com., S.W. 4.

MR. GEORGE TRAILL,
Disengaged. Character or Old Men. New address, 76, Delancy-street, N.W. 1.

MR. FRANK WEATHERSBY'S AGENCY, 3, Bedford-st., W.C. 2, 582 Gerr. "Frivolous, Westrand, London."

J. LISTER - WILLIAMS.
Leading Business.
At liberty. Offers invited.
Just concluded third engagement with Mr. Ben Greet.
7, Osborne-mansions, Northumberland-st., W. 1. Mayfair 1492.

JAMES C. WILTON.
Character, Comedy, Irish Parts.
Coliseum. Next, 59, Romford-rd., E. 15.

MR. E. FENTON WINGATE.
At lib., Character Parts.
60, Claverton-street, Pimlico, S.W. 1.

WANTED ADVERTISEMENTS

THEATRES, COMPANIES, ARTISTS, AND MUSICIANS, &c., WANTED.
THREE LINES, 1s. 6d.
EACH ADDITIONAL LINE, 9d.
PREPAID.
DISPLAYED LINES, 1s. EACH.

ARTISTS, MUSICIANS, AND OTHERS SEEKING ENGAGEMENTS.
THREE LINES, 1s.
EACH ADDITIONAL LINE, 6d.,
PREPAID.
DISPLAYED LINES, 9d. EACH.

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Advertisement Manager, "The Era,"
35, WELLINGTON STREET STRAND, W.C. 2.
Wire, "The Era, London."
Ring up, 4646 and 4547 Regent.

COMPANIES WANTED.

MILTON BODE AND EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.

WANTED, First-class Companies for
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
Oct. 4, Nov. 1, 15, 22, Jan. 10, 17, 31, on.

OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
Nov. 29, Feb. 14, 21, 28, March 7, 14, 28, on.

ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
Jan. 17, 24, 31, Feb. 14, 21, 28, on.

OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Aug. 9, Oct. 4, Nov. 22, Jan. 17, Feb. 7, 14.

THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
First vacant date, April 4-11, on.

Add., MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, first-class Company for Chester.
June 7, twice nightly.
Wire, BODE, Theatre, Reading.

HUDDERSFIELD THEATRE ROYAL.

WANTED Known,
Once nightly only,
The only first-class theatre in Huddersfield. It serves a population of 500,000.

Arrangements complete for Autumn. Now booking Spring, 1921.

ALFRED WARDING,
Theatre Royal, Huddersfield.

BRIXTON THEATRE, S.W.

WANTED, first-class Attractions only, August 9, 23, 30, October 4, 11, 25.
FREDK. MELVILLE.

WANTED, first-class Attractions, Artillery Theatre, Woolwich,
for June 7, July 19, 26 (?).
Coms., CHARLTON MANN, Adelphi Theatre, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, First-class Theatrical Companies, Operas, Variety, &c., on sharing terms, for Theatre Royal, Limerick. Vacant dates every other week from June 21. Apply by letter, stating terms and full particulars, to LICENSEE, 35, King Henry's-road, London, N.W. 3, or Local Manager, Theatre Royal, Limerick.

NEW THEATRE, OXFORD.
WANTED, High-class Attractions. Bookings include:—Fred Terry, Martin Harvey, Gertrude Elliott, F. R. Benson, D'Oyly Carte and Carl Rosa Companies, "Baby Bunting," "Tilly of Bloomsbury," "Bird of Paradise," "Who's Hooper?" "Pretty Peggy," "Chu Chin Chow," Phyllis Neilson-Terry.
Apply, S. C. DORRILL.

WANTED,
Attractions for
THEATRE ROYAL AND EMPIRE, PETERBOROUGH.

Now in full tide of success.
Beautifully renovated.
Thoroughly up to date.
Run on No. 1 lines.
Once or twice nightly. Full weeks only.

Address:—

J. A. CAMPBELL,

Theatre Royal,

Grantham.

BLACKPOOL GRAND THEATRE.
Vacant Oct. 18, Oct. 18, Oct. 18.
WANTED, first-class Company for this good date. Coms.,
T. C. WRAY, 48, Leicester-square, W.C.

WINSFORD, CHESHIRE
(9 miles from Crewe).

WANTED, ATTRACTIONS.

GOOD SHARE TERMS

to

FIRST-CLASS FIT-UPS,

with references.

No others taken.

Now Booking Big Hall for any Last 3 nights,

Oct. to April next.

Apply,

W. H. WILLIAMS, Printer.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWINDON.

June 7, June 7,

WANTED, Big Musical Attraction,

Twice nightly, twice nightly,

Only first-class attractions entertained.

Silence a polite negative.

ALFRED MANNERS, as above.

WANTED, Small Revues, Dramas, Combinations, May 24, on; 3 nights or week. MANAGER, Tivoli, Bletchley.

THEATRE ROYAL, BOGNOR
(late Kursaal).
WANTED, First-class Attractions, June 28 (3), Aug. 9 (3) (?), and Dec. 27 week.
Apply, W. N. TATE.

WANTED, strong attraction, May 31 and June 1, two nights; also June 4 and 5, two nights; theatre holds 1,000. LEVAINE, Exchange T., Spalding.

WANTED Known, owing to increase of business, MR. MARMADUKE MILLER has removed to 14, Leicester-street, Leicester-square, W.C. 2, to which address all communications should be sent.

COMPANIES WANTED.

ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.
WANTED, Companies.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant Sept. 13 (?), Nov. 29 (?), (1921), Feb. 7 (?), 14th (?), 21 (?), 28, and on, with exceptions.
THEATRE ROYAL, BATH.
Vacant June 28 (?), Dec. 13 (?), (1921), Feb. 14 (?), 28 (?), and March, on, with exceptions.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
Vacant first three nights of each week. June 28 (?), Aug. 9 (?), 23, Sept. 6 (?), Nov. 8, on, with exceptions.
EMPIRE WORCESTER
(Arrangements Complete).
THEATRE ROYAL, TONYPANDY
(Arrangements Complete).
KING'S ELECTRIC THEATRE, BARRY
(Arrangements Complete).
THEATRE ROYAL, BARRY.
Spring and Autumn Vacancies.
All others communications to
ARTHUR CARLTON,
Colehurst, Worcester.

H. W. ROWLAND'S BOOKING CIRCUIT.

WANTED, High-class Attractions.
D.P. THEATRE, EASTBOURNE.
July 5, Oct. 11, 18, Nov. 11 (3).
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS.
Oct. 4, Nov. 8 (3), 15, Dec. 13, 20.
PLEASURE GARDENS, FOLKESTONE.
Nov. 1, Dec. 6, 13, 20.
PALACE THEATRE, RAMSGATE.
Oct. 18, on, with exceptions.
PALACE THEATRE, MAIDSTONE.
Dec. 13, 20, Jan. 17, on.
Once nightly.
London Representative for W. W. Kelly and Opera House, Blackpool.

H. W. ROWLAND'S AGENCY,
52, Shaftesbury-avenue, W. 1.
Regent, 1651. "Topobill, Piccy London."

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, First-class Attractions for once or twice nightly for the Autumn.
Applications re dates to HUGH ROBERTSON, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

NEW THEATRE, BOSTON.
NEW THEATRE, BOSTON.
NEW THEATRE, BOSTON.
NEW THEATRE, BOSTON.
Once nightly.
(Three nights or full week for Cos.)
Proprietors,
Scala (Boston) Theatre, Ltd.
Man. Dir., G. Aspland Howden.
Phone, 135 Boston.

WANTED, Co. for August 2, onwards (Closing after Whit for rebuilding). This Theatre has the LARGEST HOLDING CAPACITY IN THE DISTRICT, is beautifully furnished, good band and lighting. It has also an advantage in possessing a large stage, 50ft. wide, 24ft. back, pros. opening 31ft., taking 18ft. flats, also capable of getting your scenery up and effectively producing any play.
All the Leading London Companies are coming to the New Theatre. As to future visits to the town, our attractions are:—"Who's Hooper?" "Romance," "Scandal," "Purse Strings," "Milestones," "Daddy Long-Legs," "Peg o' My Heart," "Eliza Comes to Stay," "Girl in the Taxi," "Arcadians," "Chinese Puzzle," "Nothing But the Truth," "Man from Toronto," "Naughty Wife," "My Lady Frayle," "Freedom of the Seas," "Nurse Benson," "Billeted," "Never Say Die," "Blindness of Virtue," "Inside the Lines," "Silver King," "Grumpy," "A Temporary Gentleman," "Three Wise Fools," "The Knife," "Scandal," and "Maid of the Mountains." Apply for Bookings to the Booking Manager for the Company (for 10 years),
MR. WILL DALTON.
57, Parsonage-road,
Withington, Manchester.
Wire, "Granbeste, Manchester."

WANTED, Small Revue, Drama, or Concert Party, three nights; open to morrow, through disappointment; well billed. Wire, HOLMSHAW, Long Sutton, Lincs.

WANTED, sound attractions, Monday, May 24, June 7, July 12. Wire, JACK ARNOLD, Victoria, Lye.

WANTED, Company, Musical preferred, June 21, 28. MANAGER, Alexandra Theatre, Pontefract.

PAVILION THEATRE, WEYMOUTH.
WANTED.
First-class Attractions,
First-class Attractions,
First-class Attractions,
May 31
(through obliging Ernest Gould).

All communications,
ERNEST WHEELER,
Weymouth.

PRINCESS PAVILION, FALMOUTH.
WANTED, First-class Attractions (3 nights).
Vacant July 5 (week).
July 15, 16, 17.
July 19, 20, 21.
August 12, 13, 14.
August 23, 24, 25.
September 20 (week).
Apply, stating terms, MANAGER, St. George's Hall, Falmouth.

WORTHING THEATRE ROYAL.
WORTHING THEATRE ROYAL.
WORTHING THEATRE ROYAL.
WANTED, first-class London Attractions.
Wanted, first-class London Attractions.
Wanted, first-class London Attractions.
June 3, 4, 5.
June 3, 4, 5.
June 3, 4, 5.
Also full week commencing June 21.
Also full week commencing June 21.
July 1, 2, 3.
August 12, 13, 14.
August 30, 31, Sept. 1.
Wire Wire Wire for June 3, 4, 5.
Wire Wire Wire for June 3, 4, 5.
Wire Wire Wire for June 3, 4, 5.
All communications to C. A. BERBOLD, as above.
Silence a polite negative.

WANTED, first-class Companies, Musical Comedies, Comedies, Revues, for Sept. 6, 20, Oct. 11, 18, Nov. 22, Dec. 6, and various on. MARMADUKE MILLER, 14, Leicester-street, Leicester-square, W.C. 2.

For other Companies Wanted see Displayed Wanted Section.

THEATRES WANTED.

"Monty's Flapper." "Ann."
WANTED, May 24, only date; last two Saturdays, £37 1s. 8d. Wire, HALDANE CRICHTON, Bingham Hall, Cirencester.

"HINDLE WAKES."
"HINDLE WAKES."
WANTED, Wire for May 24 (South), EDWIN T. HEYS,
Mile End, Stockport.

"MR. PIM PASSES BY."
Now running at the Playhouse.
WANTED, Theatres, July 19 (to follow Harrogate), Aug. 9, 10, 11 (through disappointment), Sept. 20 (?) and 27 (?), Oct. 18, Nov. 1 (to follow Hippo., Richmond). Now booking Spring and Autumn, 1921. DUDLEY STUART, Her Majesty's Theatre, Carlisle. May 24, New, Salisbury.

WANTED, May 31, June 7, to proceed Hippo. Dover,
"SHIP AHOY!" MUSICAL REVUE.
"SHIP AHOY!" MUSICAL REVUE.
Wire or write.
A. GALLIMORE, County T., St. Albans (3rd visit). May 24, Bingham Hall, Cirencester.

"THE PRINCE CHAP."
From the Criterion Theatre, W.
WANTED, June 28, follow New T., Cardiff. HAMILTON STEWART, 52, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.C.

WANTED, June 5, 12,

To follow, Portsmouth, for the naval play that breathes the spirit of the Fleet.

"THE SILENT WATCH."

July 5, to follow King's Theatre, Hammersmith.
Full London company of 16 artists. Managers with vacant dates should see this splendid attraction.
THEATRE ROYAL, BATH, Whit Week. Wanted, Aug. 2, 9, 16,
"THE SILENT WATCH."

A. ROSEBERY, Theatre Royal, Bath.

WANTED, Aug. 2, 9, 16, for the great naval drama of to-day,
"FOR SWEETHEARTS AND WIVES."
as played over 1,000 times by the original London Company. Whit Monday, T.R., Bath. A. ROSEBERY, Theatre Royal, Bath.

"A BUTTERFLY ON THE WHEEL."
WANTED, Theatres, June 14, July 12, 13, 14, and 22, 23, 24; Aug. 16, Aug. 30, 31, and Sept. 1, Sept. 16, 17, 18, and onwards. DUDLEY STUART, Her Majesty's, Carlisle. May 24, New, Salisbury.

WANTED, May 31, June 7, LENA STANTON'S musical success,
"S'WHAT'S THE MATTER?"
Including Eight Orchards, Four Denver Girls, Wee Joss and Lena Jay, Joe Poynton, Bert Sedgbear, Harry Jolph, and Lena Stanton.
This, Tivoli, Manchester.

"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."
By Walter Howard.
WANTED, July 12, Lancs; 26th, Yorks; Sept. 20, 27, Mids. SIDNEY RENNEF, T.R., Smethwick. Next, Bordesley.

HAROLD V. NEILSON
presents the Farcical Comedy,
"MY SOLDIER BOY."
"MY SOLDIER BOY."
"MY SOLDIER BOY."
As played by the late Weedon Grossmith. Just concluded highly successful tour of twenty-three weeks, with average weekly takings of over £400.

Gross receipts at the Palace Pier Theatre, Brighton, at prices, 6d. to 3s.:—
£652 5s. 1d.
£652 5s. 1d.
£652 5s. 1d.
£652 5s. 1d.
£652 5s. 1d.

At the Garrison Theatres "My Soldier Boy" on many occasions exceeded the gross takings of "The Merry Widow" and "The Maid of the Mountains."

Cast includes:—
Allan Macdonald,
Martin Sands,
Daisy Cordell.

Bookings:—Brighton, Bath, Torquay, Newcastle, Harrogate, Scarborough, Buxton, Aldershot, Guildford, Yarmouth, Lowestoft, Norwich, Westcliff.

WANTED,
July 5, 19, 26,
August 16,
Sept. 6, 20, 27.

HAROLD V. NEILSON,
Grand Theatre, Leeds.

"THE NATURAL LAW."
WANTED, June 28, July 26, Aug. 2.
Booked by Messrs. John Hart, M. Bode, J. H. Curry, J. M. Glover, Otto Culling, Mrs. Dudley Bennett, E. Stevens, H. Milne, E. Dottridge, C. Trenchard, Monillot Office, N. Hepworth, &c.
CHARLES HARRINGTON,
22, Birchwood Mansions, Muswell Hill, London.

H. J. SNELSON'S TOUR.

"THE KINEMA KID."
By Charles Baldwin and H. J. Snelson.

In Four Magnificent Scenes, all full sets.

Star Cast, includes
Syd Franks, Miss Dorothea Leamar,
Ted Young, Miss Peggy Dallas,
Walter Langford, Miss Billie Rudge,
Walter T. Hybert, Miss Jessie Lewis.
Full West-End Chorus.
Madame Victor's Six Kinema Kids,
Wonderfully clever kiddies.
Conductor, Mr. Albert Vernon.

WANTED, Theatre,
Immediate vacancies,
June 7, 14, 21, and 28.

Address, H. J. SNELSON,
this, Queen's Park Hippo., Manchester; next, Alhambra, Stourbridge.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, May 27 (3 nights), June 7, on, for high-grade Comedies and Musical Plays. Only the best shows represented. GRAFTON'S AGENCY, 18, Green-street, Leicester-square, W.C.
Wires, "Noftnary, Phone, London.

"WITHIN THE LAW."
The Famous Dramatic Play which is being revived by Miss Edith Goodall.
WANTED, Dates for First-class Company. Entire production travelled. Apply, HUBERT WOODWARD, 102, Charing Cross-road, W.C. 2.

HORACE HODGES
in
"GRUMPY."
"GRUMPY."

WANTED, July 26, Aug. 9, 30, Sept. 9 (3), 13, 27, and Oct. 4.

WALTER D. NICOLL,

This, T.R., Exeter.

Next, 17, Leicester-st., London, W.C. 2.

THEATRES WANTED.

WANTED, Aug. 2,
The Spectacular Fairy Melange,

"BUZZ ALONG."
"BUZZ ALONG."
"BUZZ ALONG."
"BUZZ ALONG."
"BUZZ ALONG."
"BUZZ ALONG."

A real novelty in six scenes.

See it this week.

Imperial Palace, Canning Town.

WANTED, Theatres, June 14, 21 (follow Hip., Poplar, and precede Hamilton), July 5, 12, 26 (North), for "One Law for Both" and "A Love Marriage." W. V. GARROD, 94, Kennington Pk.-rd., London, S.E. 11.

WANTED, Theatres, for July 5 and 12. Biggest combination ever travelled. Vaudeville. Bob Pender's Troupe of Girls (10 in number), and "Dandies" (6 in number); two distinct troupes. Also powerful Variety Company. Coms., 247, Brixton-road, London, S.W. 9.

"MAN WHO STAYED AT HOME." "RAFFLES" and "THE PASSPORT."
WANTED, June 21,
June 21,
GERALD ALEXANDER, The Grange, Tonbridge. Next week, T.R., Eyde.

JOSH CLIFTON'S LAUGHTER MAKER.
"ODDS AND ENDS."
"ODDS AND ENDS."
"ODDS AND ENDS."
"ODDS AND ENDS."
In Five Scenes.

WANTED, through misunderstanding,
May 24.
May 24.
May 24.
May 24.
Wire. Wire. Wire.
King's Theatre, Greenock.

F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COMPANY,

"A SOLDIER'S DIVORCE."

By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.

WANTED, Wire for May 24.
Wire for May 24.
Wire for May 24.
Printing ready.
"A SOLDIER'S DIVORCE."

Wire F. G. KIMBERLEY, The Rightside, Penn-rd., Wolverhampton; or PAUL BECKETT, Pal., Bordesley (return).

FRED. GRANVILLE'S TOURS.
"TAINTED LIVES."
"TAINTED LIVES."
By Ronald Grahame.
Owing to remarkable success tour extended through summer.
Playing to more money than revue or musical comedy.
WANTED, May 31, June 7, 14, and later.
May 31, June 7, 14, and later.
FRED GRANVILLE,
108, Fordwych-road, Cricklewood, London, N.W. 2.

WANTED, Theatres in South Wales district, Monday next and May 31, for repertory of four plays. W. V. GARROD, 94, Kennington Park-road, London, S.E. 11.

WANTED, for "The Female Hun," May 24 (Lancs or Yorks), June 7, 14 (Midlands or London). All coms., WALTER MELVILLE, Lyceum Theatre, London, W.C.

For other Theatres Wanted see Displayed Wanted Section.

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Young Actress (petite); good figure essential; pretty; for sketch. Full particulars, lowest terms, photo., rehearse immediately, to C. H., 97, Franciscan-rd., Tooting Common, S.W. (No callers.)

WANTED, Monday, Lady Vocalist and Pianiste, Gent. Comedian and Musical Speciality; C. P. POWELL, 192, Kennington-rd., S.E.

WANTED, Comediennes, Comedians and Ballad Vocalists, for June 28, Lancashire district; absolute lowest for combination. Coms., B. P., 247, Brixton-road, London, S.W. 9.

WANTED, at once, good Vocalists, capable of singing (in English), leading parts out of standard operas; can offer long engagements on tour; 3½ hours' performance daily. Apply, stating terms, which must be reasonable. Address, Box 281, "The Era."

WANTED, Juvenile Lead; must act well. Call, Ship Hotel, Kennington-road, W.

WANTED, for tour, commencing June 7, tall Gent., for part; long tour; must be good study. Call, 12.30 to 1.30, or write, WILLIAMS, 4, Featherstone-buildings, High Holborn, W.C. 1.

WANTED, for "TOTO," autumn and spring tour, starting end July, Juvenile Leading Gentleman; must be good vocalist; Leading Comedian. Terms, parts played, full particulars, MARK BLOW, 21, Panton-street, Haymarket, London.

WANTED, good Character Actor for two small parts in first-class music-hall sketch; ready to open immediately. Send lowest and full particulars (no callers), MANAGER, 32, Glenshaw-mansions, Brixton-road, S.W. 9.

WANTED, for short summer tour of "THE PRINCE CHAP," a Character Actor (George Shelton type), and gentlemen for Dutchman and Ballington. Also tall Juvenile Lady (dark) and Chambermaid (Dorothy Minto type). First instance, terms only, HAMILTON STEWART, 52, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.C.

WANTED, Cinema Artists, all lines, for important British productions; photos. essential. SIDNEY JAY'S AGENCY, 205, Oxford-street, W. 1. 'Phone, Museum 4329.

WANTED, Cinema Artists, to call with photos; must live in town. GRAFTON AGENCY, 18, Green-street, Leicester-square, W.C.

WANTED, experienced Boy Actor (Comedian) for Musical Production (town and tour); must be short, have good singing voice, and be over 14. Letters only. BERT GILBERT, c/o Lewis Waller, Ltd., 59, St. Martin's-lane, W.C. 2.

WANTED, for Musical Comedy, Artists all lines. Apply, MARMADUKE MILLER, 14, Leicester-street, W.C. 2.

ARTISTS WANTED.

EGYPT AND THE NEAR EAST, INDIA, AND THE FAR EAST.

BANDMAN'S EASTERN CIRCUIT.

ANNUAL RECONSTRUCTION of The Bandman Opera Company, The Bandman Musical Comedy Company.

WANTED,
Artists in all Lines,
including
Principal Comedian.
Light Comedian.
Principal Baritone.
Principal Tenor.
Second Baritone.
Second Tenor.
Principal Soprano.
Principal Soubrette.
Principal Dancer.
Also Dancers and Chorus Ladies.
Also Stage Manager, Producer, and First-class Musical Director (Piano).
Also Business Manager, Wardrobe Mistress, and Stage Carpenter.

Engagement from twelve to twenty-four months, to leave England for Egypt in July. All hotel expenses paid by management. Apply (letters only), stating lowest terms, with full particulars of experience, enclosing recent photos., also stating where at present can be seen playing.
MAURICE H. BANDMAN,
36, Haymarket,
London, S.W.

WANTED, Artists, all lines. Call, 11 to 4, PERRY & ROBSON, Agents, 201a, High Holborn.

WANTED, Violinist and Vocalist, to join pianist for refined busking. Address, GEO. SMART, 38a, Burnaby-st., Chelsea, S.W.

WANTED, Artists for small parts in Sketch for town and provinces; robust character actors, light comedy Gent., young; tall Gent., middle-aged, for straight parts; 2 character ladies; tall Carpenter, to play small parts. Apply, HORACE HUNTER, Stage Door, Metropolitan, Edgware-rd., W., Thursday, 11.30.

WANTED at once, Girl Dancers. TREVALYAN, 3, New Oxford-street, W.C. 2.

WANTED, First-class Dancers. Call to-day, 11.30 to 12.30. ERNEST DARE, 3, Bedford-st., Strand.

WANTED for Paris, Show Ladies and Dancing Girls, also Smart Chorus Gents. Apply, M. Y. OLNEY, Stage Door, London Hippodrome, mornings, at 11 a.m.

WANTED, for Lucile, Paris, tall, slim Model Girl, height 5ft. 10in. essential; young, dark and pretty. Apply personally, LUCILE, 23, Hanover-square, London.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED Known, BALLERINE seeks engagement for the summer season as première danseuse or demi-caractère; only first-class ensemble considered. Write, R. R. G., Poste Restante, Mont Blanc, Geneva.

WANTED Known, HENRY LUDLOW, at liberty May 23, supporting Miss Ethel Irving in "La Tosca," thanks Arthur Collins, Esq., for offer of Capt. de Trevignac, in "The Garden of Allah." Sorry unable to accept owing to failure to obtain release from final week of tour. T.R., Plymouth.

WANTED Known, BOBBY BRITTON, Dwarf Comedian, at liberty for revue, &c. C/o "The Era."

WANTED Known, intelligent lad (18) is desirous of travelling as Assistant with gentleman; has some experience as Comedian and Straight. Letters, stating terms, Box 251, "The Era."

AMATEURS, PUPILS, ETC., WANTED.

WANTED, Amateurs, Aspirants. Splendid opportunity entering profession. Stamp. Call afternoons. MR. D'ALBERT, 3, Stansfield-road, Stockwell-road, S.W. 9.

WANTED, Ladies, Gentlemen, good voices, wishing to enter professions. Vacancies in every direction when proficient. Stamp. Call. D'ALBERT, above.

WANTED, Beginners, every description, Music Halls, Theatres, Concert Parties. 200 successful clients appearing; 25 years' reputation. D'ALBERT, above address.

WANTED, Pupils to Train for Ballet and Character Dancing; Singing and Gesture taught; class and private lessons in Buck, Step, and Schottische. Special after-school children's class. Terms moderate. EVA BARNES, 4, Soho-street, Oxford-street, 1 minute Tottenham Court-road Tube. Telephone, 6153 Gerrard.

WANTED, Girls, to train as Dancers for Troupe; no fees; salary when proficient. Letters only to E. DARE, Macclesfield Hotel, City-road.

WANTED, Young Ladies and Children, refined and of good appearance, all-round dancers, for Troupe Work. BETTY LEWIS' DANCING SCHOOL (over Regent Restaurant), 104, Westbourne-grove, W.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Billposters, permanent employment to suitable men. State age, experience, and give references to SHELDONS, LTD., Cookridge-street, Leeds.

WANTED, Billposter (good), at once. Apply, stating wages and experience, STOKE AND NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE BILLPOSTING CO., LTD., Newstreet, Hanley.

WANTED immed., Tall Baggage Man, play small part. Pass., LESLIE, Pavilion, Pontardawe.

WANTED, Hustling Advance Agent, Fit-up C.P. Tour; one able to book and know the smalls. Tynan wire if vacant. HYDE, King's Arms, Bromyard, Worcs.

WANTED, Handy Man, capable looking after side show; young, smart, able to speak a little; open Kursaal, Southend, Whitsun. Call to-day (Wed.), 23a, Delamere-terrace, Warwick-avenue, W.

WANTED, Scenic Artists, to know that Lepto's hold a large stock of Scenic Colours, Brushes, &c. Write for Catalogue. A. LEPTO & CO., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E. 1.

WANTED, engagement by thoroughly experienced Manager (London only); Variety or Picture House; control bars, cafés, &c.; at present engaged in large theatre in the provinces, third year; age 29; smart appearance and highest references. Terms, photo., and particulars on application. Apply, MANAGER, 52, Reuben-street, Camp-road, Leeds.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Engagement (resident or tour), by Manager, age 36; 16 years' resident and touring experience; variety, pictures, drama, including parts; 4 years present position (pictures and variety); well educated; accountant; control bars; highest references.

Box 255, "The Era."

WANTED, by competent Operator-Electrician, long exp.; 30; single. ENGINEER, 128, Uxbridge-road, W. 12.

WANTED KNOWN, W. C. SORRELL, Circus Billposter, Astwood Bank, Worcestershire.

WANTED, by young widow, who is good Pianist, post in any useful capacity in hotel or anywhere where musical ability would be useful.
Box 250, "The Era."

WANTED Known, experienced lady requires situation as barmaid in London music hall. Address, Box 240, "The Era."

WANTED, engagement by Scenic Artist, abstainer; permanency preferred; cinema or theatre work; good worker and best refs.; mod. terms. Address, Box 248, "The Era."

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ALFRED WHYATT & SON,
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WANTED, thoroughly reliable Violinist-Conductor, to open May 24 or 31st; very comfortable situation to suitable man; twice nightly; open all the year round. Apply, with lowest terms and references, to E. H. BOSTOCK, Zoo-buildings, Glasgow. Telegrams: "Zoo, Glasgow."

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First-class Violin-Conductor,
Permanency.
State terms, refs.,
J. A. CAMPBELL,
Empire, Grantham.

WANTED, Piano Conductor, for tour, first-class revue; only competent man need apply, and one who will keep chorus up to pitch.
Open immediately.
J. BLERFOY, Imperial Palace, Canning Town, London, S.E. 6.

WANTED, Piano-Conductor for Revue; must be able to arrange; join immediately. Full particulars, lowest terms, TEW, Hippodrome, Eastbourne.

WANTED, First-class Repet., open May 30 or 31; able to take Leader-Violin place when required. Also first-class D. Bass can open at once. Both for high-class cinema orchestra; matinees daily; evenings, 6.30 to 10.30; one performance every Sunday evening; comfy. and perm. engt. to right men. State terms for 6 days, refs., MANAGER, Globe Theatre, Coventry.

WANTED, Violin Repet. (lady); must be good reader and have good tone; audition Wed., 3 o'clock. STEVENS, Victoria Cinema, New North-rd. Will Miss Crow write in, please?.

WANTED, Violinist (Repet.) for Cinema, Leeds, to open 24th or 31st; twice daily; must be thoroughly exp. in repet. work with small orch., and capable of leading; good tone and technique essential. Terms, exp., age, full pars., &c., to PHILLIP JACOBS, Tower Cinema, Leeds.

WANTED, Rep. Violinist, able to lead (gentleman), mornings. 71, Oldhill st., Clapton, N. 16, or after 6.30 p.m., Coliseum, 31, Stoke Newington-rd., N. 16.

WANTED Known. MAURICE PIENA has vacancies for first-class Leader in important cinema, 'Cellists, Repetiteurs, Bass Players, Pianists, Clarinettists, and Organists.

WANTED, Leader, lady or gentleman; commence Saturday next; 6 days, no Sunday; interviews between 11.30 a.m. and 10.30 p.m., with violin. MUSICAL DIRECTOR, Academy Picture House, 141, Kingstreet, Hammersmith.

WANTED, good Leader for Cinema, no Sundays; sight reader essential. 56, Leigham Vale, Streatham, S.W. 16.

WANTED, experienced Violiniste-Leader (lady), to open Sunday; permanency. Apply any time after 2 o'clock, MUSICAL DIRECTOR, Fulham Picture Palace, 250, North End-road, S.W. 6.

WANTED, Violinist (Sub-Leader) for North London Cinema; strong tone; brisk player; take control afternoons; play Rep. evenings. Barrett write. Also Second Repetiteur. No callers. Letters only to HARRY CRIDLAND, 24, Beversbrook-road, Holloway, N. 19.

WANTED, immediately, a first-class Violin Leader and Soloist, with own library, to take charge of Quartette for Pictures and Café. Write full particulars and lowest terms to CINEMA DE LUXE, Chatham.

WANTED, Violin Leader, also 'Cellist, for Relief Trio. Audition 11 o'clock Thursday morning. Court Cinema Playhouse, 258, Tottenham Court-road, Oxford-street.

WANTED, Leader, Cornet, Trombone, and Drums, for Variety Hall. Send age, terms, and experience to LEE, 23, Tindall-street, Scarborough.

WANTED, Leader-Violin, with first-class library.
Also Repet.
Evenings only. No Sunday work.
Permanency to experienced picture workers. Open May 31.
A. WOODWARD, Electric Theatre, Forge-road, Port Talbot.

WANTED, good Leader, First Violin, 'Cello, and 2nd Cornet for Hengler's Summer Circus Season at Hippodrome, Gt. Yarmouth; twice daily; A.M.U. terms; open July 1; good men only apply, stating references, experience, &c., to MR. JAS. WATTS, c/o Lamby, 32, Oxford-road, Blackpool.

THEATRE ROYAL, PONTYPOOL, MON.
WANTED, to open at once, or when at liberty, 1st Violin (Leader), also Double Bass; permanency to the right people. Age, terms, references, and when at liberty. G. W. H. PITT, as above.

PALACE THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON.
WANTED, good Leader, thor. exp. Vaz., open at once; salary £3 10s.; perm. to right man. Refs., &c., to JOHN W. WILDE, Mus. Dir.

WANTED, first-class Lady Violinist for West End Café. Apply, personally, GRAY, 12, Asther-street, Piccadilly.

WANTED, for London, Provinces, and Seaside, good Violinists, 'Cellists, Pianists. SALON ORCHESTRA SOCIETY, 34, Oxford-st., W. 1.

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WANTED, Lady Violiniste, Whit Week, to open Friday, May 21; hotel. Lowest, ROSINA, 75, Station-rd., Bexhill.

WANTED, at once, Second Violin, Cornet, Flute, and Clarinet. Letters only; no calling. MUS. DIR., 194, Holloway-road, N.

WANTED, Violinists and 'Cellists (ladies), for Buxton Hydro.; commence June 24; 3 hours per day; 4 hours per day when dancing required; one evening per week off; must be solo players, and good at dance music and refined. CATHIE LEADBETTER, Solo Violiniste, 81, Anne's Pier.

WANTED, exp. Violinist for Cinema, good programmes; open May 31; 6 nights, 1 matinée; good terms and permanency. Apply, with terms and refs., to H. SMITH, c/o Adair, 36, Titchfield-st., Kilmarnock.

WANTED, at once, Violin (not leader), 24 hours weekly (others may write). Age, refs., and lowest. BAND, 4, Armitage-terrace, Hornsea, East Yorks.

WANTED, First-class Violinist, Pianiste, 'Cellist; latest repertoire; café; proficient ragtime; state lowest terms, last engagement. HARDING, 54, King's-road, Brighton.

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WANTED Known. MISS HOLLINS has immediate vacancy here for first-class Violiniste (as reserve) to lead or play repet. when necessary; salary based on 12 hours weekly; a nice engagement for any lady requiring light work. 84, King's road, Harrogate.

WANTED, two first-class Violinists. Apply at once, LONDON & PROVINCIAL MUSICAL AGENCY, 26a, Shaftesbury-avenue, London. Also Strings, Pianists, and Organists, call or write. 'Phone, Gerrard 6821.

WANTED, exceptionally good Violinist, used to highest class music; pictures, evenings only. Write, with particulars and salary required, CONDUCTOR, Empire, Blyth.

WANTED, for Bostock and Wombwell's Menagerie, good Solo Cornet, salary 75s. week; Trombone, 70s. each, with 5s. weekly bonus. Address, Bridgewater, Wednesday; Taunton, Thursday and Friday; Wellington, Saturday.

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WANTED, to open at once, Trombone, B flat Horn, and good Cornet. State terms and particulars for tenting season. Easy shop and good bonus. GUS. NUTTALL, Bandmaster, 43, St. Mary's-square, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Trombone, for Cheltenham Municipal Orchestra, to Sept. 25. Terms, recent references, J. HOWARD SHACKLETON, 368, High-street, Cheltenham.

WANTED, at Once,
Trombone Player.
Must be tall.
Apply, stating full particulars, to
LEO. CUD,
43, Danesville-road, Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED, 'Cellists, to deputise, Whit Week; 6 evenings only; S.W. Cinema. Apply, 'CELLISTE, 94, Robinson-rd., Tooting, S.W. 17.

WANTED, first-class 'Cellist and Cornettist, to open Monday, May 24; comf. and permanent engagement to good musicians. Terms, &c., for twice-nightly pictures and var., to FRANK HARTLEY, M. D., Empire, Rugby.

WANTED, at once, a first-class 'Cellist for a high-class Cinema in the Midlands; hours 5½ daily; Sunday, 13 hours. Apply, with copies of testimonials, remuneration, &c., to Box 256, "The Era."

WANTED, Deputy 'Cellist for Whit Monday, 2.30-10.30; S.E. 'CELLIST, 165, Jamaica-road, S.E. 16.

WANTED, 'Cellist and Clarinetist or Flautist; six evenings, two matinées weekly; commence immediately. Terms to MANAGER, Cinema, Truro.

WANTED, to open at once, first-class 'Cellist; evenings only; 6.30 to 10.30; no Sunday work. Apply, stating lowest terms, to BERT WHEELER, M.D., Amity Hall, Poole, Dorset.

WANTED, 'Cellist, evenings only; good sight-reader. Apply, S. ABBAS, Mus. Dir., Kentish Town Palace.

WANTED, immediately, good experienced 'Cellist, gent., for Cinema, evenings only. Apply personally, any morning, 123, Sandringham-rd., Dalston, N.E.

WANTED, 'Cellist, experienced in high-class cinema music. State experience and salary required, NORMAN NELSON, Picture House, Stafford.

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WANTED Known, there are vacancies in the band of H.M. Royal Garrison Artillery for the following instrumentalists:—Solo Cornet, 'Cello, Principal Horn, and Double Drummer; must be capable men; double-handed and ex-Service men preferred. Apply, sending copies of testimonials, to HON. SECRETARY, R.G.A. Band, Shoeburyness.

WANTED, Second Cornet, lady or gentleman; twice daily; six days, lowest terms, J. H. ROWE, Municipal Orchestra, Aberystwyth.

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WANTED, first-class Solo Cornet. Apply, with terms and references, to GENERAL MANAGER.

COUNTY MENTAL HOSPITAL, CHEDDLETON, LEEK, STAFFORDSHIRE.
WANTED, Attendants. Vacancies in Orchestra for Horn, Clarinet (solo), Flute, Bassoon, and B Trombone. Salary commences at 62s. 6d. per week; £4 per annum for band. Men may live in for 21s. per week if they choose. Increases 2s. per week for each year's service. Pensions given. Apply to MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT.

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MUNICIPAL MILITARY BAND.
WANTED, to commence immediately, for the summer season, FIRST FRENCH HORN also SOLO E FLAT CLARINET; must be thoroughly experienced. Duties twice daily, including Sundays. Apply, with terms and references, stating age, to the Director of Music, MR. DAN GODFREY, Winter Gardens, Bournemouth.

WANTED, a good Clarinet, experienced in variety; permanency to good man; A.M.U. terms. Apply, with references, to MANAGER, Queen's Theatre, Leeds.

WANTED, Clarinet, to open Whit Monday; must be A.M.U. man. Apply, PALACE THEATRE, Maidstone.

WANTED, First-class Clarinetist, low pitch; used to highest class music; pictures, evenings only. Write, with particulars and salary required, CONDUCTOR, Empire, Blyth.

WANTED, Experienced Lady D. Bass Player, for few weeks; seaside engagement. Middle of June. Box 286, "The Era."

WANTED, first-class String Bass Player for Summer Season Orchestra, commencing at Whitsun; 6 hours daily; or player who can take either trombone or horn in military band preferred.
Applications, stating terms and full particulars, to be sent not later than May 23 next, to the AMUSEMENT COMMITTEE, Council-chambers, Shanklin, Isle of Wight.

WANTED, first-class B Bass; permanent engagement to right man. Apply, MANAGER, King's Picture Playhouse, King's-rd., Chelsea, S.W.

CRYSTAL PALACE BAND.
WANTED, Bass, combine Brass and String; 32 weeks, June 9 to Oct. 30. Write, HERBERT GODFREY, 79, Central Hill, S.E. 19.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, for first-class variety hall in Birmingham, 'Cellist. Also for first-class variety hall in South Wales, First and Second Cornet. Players (A.M.U.). Write, stating experience, with copies of references, to Box 282, "The Era."

WANTED, thoroughly competent 'Cellist, to deputise in London for about six weeks, from May 31; must be experienced in grand opera; six evenings, two matinées. Terms, &c., to Box 257, "The Era."

WANTED, Musicians, at first-class Variety Halls.
Glasgow Coliseum, Oboeist, Repetiteur, and First Cornet.
Summerhill Picture Palace, Birmingham, First Violinist.
Applicants must be experienced and thoroughly competent (A.M.U.). Write, enclosing copies of references, to the M. D. at the above-mentioned hall.

WANTED, Flute and Piccolo, also Trombone; permanency to suitable players. Apply, MANAGER, Hippodrome, Exeter.

WANTED, Flute, Clarinet, Cornet, Bass, 'Cello (Ladies), for seaside engagement; 3 hours daily. Apply by letter, M. D., 372, Fulham Palace-rd., London, S.W.

WANTED Immediately, Organist, Orchestral; evenings only; pictures. Write or call, MANAGER, Gaiety Theatre, Wallington, Surrey.

WANTED immediately, Organist; times 12.45 to 2, 4 to 5.30, and 7 to 9.30. Also Violin, Leader, 'Cellist, and Pianist, for evenings only, for high-class West-End café. Apply to FREID, 10, Acacia-road, N.W., Wednesday and Thursday, until 11.45.

WANTED, really first-class Orchestral Organist; must be good sight reader; permanency. Also Deputy Organist for two days per week. Apply, MUS. DIR., Silver Cinema, Shepherd's Bush.

WANTED, Relief Pianiste. No Sundays. Apply, 3 to 5, M. B. Wood Green Palladium, High-road, Wood Green.

WANTED, open immediately, for short engagement, good Pianist, capable of conducting small orchestra and playing organ. Wire terms, references, to-day St. Austell, to-morrow Bodmin, BAKER, "Seven Days' Leave" Co.

WANTED, first-class Orchestral Pianist; thoroughly experienced hotel. Terms, &c., Box 250, "The Era."

WANTED, for Seaside Engt., First-class Pianist; also good Rep., able to lead if required, and 'Cello, Bass, Drums; must be used to Variety work. Apply by letter first instance, giving full particulars; M.D., 127, Seymour-st., Hartington, N. 8.

WANTED, first-class Pianist, gent., good appearance, single preferred, for fully booked variety act. Letters, stating lowest terms, to
DONEGAY,
15, Fountain-street, Hull.

WANTED, Orchestral Pianist; must be experienced. Letters only, ABBOTT, 47, Uxbridge-road, Shepherd's Bush, W.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, good Orchestral Pianiste. Apply, W. A. ABBEY, Mus. Dir., Premier Electric Theatre, High-road, Ilford, E.

WANTED, for Fulham Grand Theatre Cinema, Sunday evenings only, Pianist, Violinist, Bass; must be experienced artists. MUS. DIR., Fulham Grand Theatre, S.W. 6.

WANTED, good Pianist for small Cinema, evenings only, 1 matinée; must be good sight reader. Apply, stating lowest terms, to Box 255, "The Era."

WANTED, first-class Harpist, for cinema, London. Letters only, MUS. DIR., 50, Kingsgate-road, West Hampstead.

WANTED, Harmonium Player (Lady), for summer engagement. Apply, at once, Box 290, "The Era."

WANTED, first-class Tympanist and Drummer,
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Send refs, &c., CONDUCTOR, 43, New Walk, Leicester.

WANTED, experienced Drummer, for North London Cinema; permanent; evenings only. Box 285, "The Era."

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WANTED, Ladies' Trio, Violin, Piano, and 'Cello; open Monday, May 24. Terms, &c., to ALLAN MILTON, Picture House, Buxton.

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WANTED, Solo Violinists, 'Cellists, Double Basses, and Pianists to register for C. W. & F. M. Bush's Orchestras on Liners. State age, experience. Two references for personal character. Audition must be given. Terms, musicians, £12 per month; bandmasters, £13 to £14, uniform allowance £1 5s. per month; war bonus. Also Musicians for Hotel and Cinema Orchestras. C. W. & F. M. BUSH, 16, Castle-street, Liverpool.

WANTED Known, Music on Hire for Cinemas; all the latest selections, overtures, &c. Cheapest in trade. GOLDMAN'S, 93-95, Green-road, South Shields.

WANTED Known, GRANDE PIANO-LEHRANT.
Conductor, Composer, Irish Violinist. Booked solid until Christmas, 1920.

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WANTED Known, BERNARD MARBISON, string specialist, Violinists, 'Cellists, Bassists, send for my new professional list of finest Italian, French, and English strings.
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WANTED, by Musical Director, Seaside Engagement, Pianist; can supply others. Address, 90, Isleden-road, Finsbury Park.

WANTED, an engagement for season; pier, café, or good hotel, by first-class Musical Director, brilliant Violin Soloist; extensive library; can recommend first-class Leader and Solo Cornet; open at once. Apply, Box 239, "The Era."

WANTED Known, Pianiste-Conductress, disengaged now for London or Provinces; cinema, hotel, and café; highest refs.; exceptionally fine orchestral library. Special attention paid to fitting pictures; 3 years last position. Apply GRIFFITHS, 16, Lanhill-road, Maida Vale, W. 9.

WANTED Known.
Gentleman Conductor (baton or piano) desires change. Exp. Cinema or café.
TREVOR VERNON, F.Y.S.A.,
47, Peel-terrace, Stafford.

WANTED Known, Conductor, experienced, Grand Opera, desires position, good cinema or theatre. Offers to Box 13, Smith's Library, 62, Kensington High-st. W. 8.

WANTED, engagement by Solo Violinist-Conductor for cinema, café, &c. Good offers only. MISS DELLOW, 25, Elingham-road, Shepherd's Bush, W. 12.

WANTED, Engt. by first-class Piano-Conductor or as Pianist; thoroughly experienced, steady and reliable; references. CONDUCTOR, 46, Howbury-st., Bedford.

WANTED Known. Can be heard daily in High-class Cinema, First-class Violinist-Conductor. Expert fitting pictures. Best offers only. Box 267, "The Era."

WANTED, engagement, Leader and Soloist; thoroughly experienced cinema, restaurant; hotel preferred.
Box 274, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Violinist as Leader or Mus. Dir.; London evenings only. Also First-class Double Bass. Box 288, "The Era."

WANTED, Engt., fully exp. Cinema Violiniste-Leader and Pianist (Lady Gent.), at lib. May 22; large library, Tavan arrangements, &c.; reliable musician. Terms, &c., to M. D., 4, South-ter., Bexley Heath, Kent.

WANTED, Engt., by Violinist (Repet.) pictures or café. Apply, 11, Bramley-rd., South Ealing, W.

WANTED Known, Violinist, a real good Rep., neither seat warmer nor string breaker, requires engagement. Address, VIOLIN, 39, Store-street, Bedford square, W.C. 1.

WANTED, Engt. as Rep. or 2nd Violin in Cinema; London only. MISS VERA WATERMAN, 6a, Tintern-st., Brixton, S.W. 4.

WANTED, by Violiniste (Rep.), experienced cinema and café work. Engagement in or near London, June 14. Box 291, "The Era."

WANTED Known, Violinist (Leader), at liberty May 24, with up-to-date library; just terminating engagement. Also 'Cellist, open same date. Together or separate; hotel or café; highest references. Box 276, "The Era."

WANTED Known, Violiniste-Leader, open to deputise; exp. all branches. MISS MAUD BARDLEY-WILMOT, 21, Alexander-street, Bayswater, W. 2.

WANTED Known, exceptionally good Leader-Solo Violinist, also wife Orchestral Pianiste, terminating 4 years' engagement, desire change; extensive library; fitting a specialty. Audition any morning. London or suburbs. 20, Manor road, S.E. 4.

WANTED Known, first-class Leader, Violinist, used to highest class business. Disengaged May 31; good hotel or cinema offer wanted; complete orchestra provided if required; now playing in West End. J. G., 15, Granville-street, W.C. 1.

WANTED, Engagement by young, first-class Violinist-Leader; evenings only; disengaged next Saturday week. VIOLINIST, 152, Brecknock-road, N. 19.

WANTED, engagement as Leader (Repet.) or Viola; experienced theatre, varieties, cinema; reliable; good library; 3 years last engagement. CROFT, 1, Jordan-avenue, Kimberley, Hull.

WANTED Known,
at Liberty.
EUGENE BOWEN,
Solo Violin, Leader, and Conductor.
for
Good Seaside or Town Engagement.
My own orchestra optional.
Handel House, Handel-street, King's Cross.

WANTED, Engt. by a first-class Leader and Solo Violinist, with a first-class trio; can supply own library; London only. Write, LEADER, 67, Ormiston-road, Shepherd's Bush, London, W. 12.

WANTED, Engt. by experienced Lady Violiniste (leader), café or hotel; present engt. 3½ years; own repertoire; good offers only. OLIVE WHATFORD, 27, Beaumont-buildings, St. John-st., Oxford.

WANTED Known,
First-class Violinist-Leader and Soloist, of Continental repute, with vast cinema experience and unquestionable ability,
at present completing contract, to open in London Engagements at an early date.
Address,
Box 207, "The Era."

WANTED, Leader experienced in performed First Violinist, also Soloist; MR. GADR, 25, Charlotte-street, S.E. 17.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED Known, 1st Violin or Repf. Dieneg.; London or S.W. or S.E. suburb; only open to accept permanency. Coms., EUGENE HRARD, Clydesdale, 39, Lodge-rd., W. Croydon.

WANTED, by Young Lady Violiniste, Engagement as Repet, or Second; experienced (disengaged). Box 279, "The Era."

WANTED, summer engagement by lady Violiniste; leader of Opera Co.; experienced in all lines. Write to B., Box 277, "The Era."

WANTED Known, widely experienced First-class Violiniste and Pianiste, reliable and enthusiastic workers, desire change, and invite offers from first-class Cinemas where good music is an appreciated feature. Present programmes exchanged. Tavan, Alder, &c., &c.

PIANISTE, Box 282, "The Era."

WANTED, engagement by lady; experienced orchestral and solo Violinist; own library if required. All coms. to VIOLINIST, 5, Coleridge-road, Crouch End, N.

WANTED Known, by French lady, first-class Solo Violiniste and Leader (or quartette), Seaside Summer Engt.; pictures perfectly fitted; select and up-to-date repertoire; good offers only. Box 237, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement as Deputy, by Orchestral Violiniste, not leader. MISS WALKER, 55, Coningham-rd., Shepherd's Bush.

WANTED, by thoroughly experienced Violinist, afternoon engagement. 25, Kingscourt-road, Streatham, S.W. 16.

WANTED Known, Violinist, last 5 years' reference as Cinema Mus. Dir.; extensive cinema and dance library. What offers? HARRY HARLOW, 5, Wellington-st. West, Burton-on-Trent.

WANTED, re-engagement by Violinist; highest references. Write, E. E., 17, Cambria-rd., Camberwell, S.E.5.

WANTED Known, good Deputy Violinist, disengaged; gent. VIOLINIST, 17, Denny-st., Kennington.

WANTED Known, Violinist disengaged; exp. all lines; 1st or Repf. 46, West Hill-rd., Southfields, S.W. 18.

WANTED, through closing, Engt. as Violinist; any business; abstainer; experience; reference; Kiddie and Bray, present employers. ALFRED BARNSHAW, Violinist, Alexandra Theatre, Widnes.

WANTED, by experienced Violinist; at liberty; pictures or variety; Liverpool district. J. C., 11, Gilpin-st., Liverpool.

WANTED Known, as Violinist, second preferred; used to best class orchestras; have fine library if required. Box 272, "The Era."

WANTED, Engt. by Cornet, theatre or variety. CORNET, 23, St Stephen's-rd., Upton Park, London, E. 6.

WANTED, by experienced Cornet, Engt., orchestral or military; used to quick variety act. Refs., best offers, to PARKER, Cornettist, 145, Broughton-rd., Edinburgh.

WANTED, summer engagement by good Solo Cornet. A.M.U. Box 226, "The Era."

WANTED Known, Clarinet, at liberty, can open at once; flat or sharp pitch, first-class picture house preferred; just concluded tour. Address, CLARINET, c/o 119, Mount Pleasant, Liverpool.

WANTED Known, Clarinet, 2nd Vn., disengaged, experienced; A.M.U. G., 135, Bensham-lane, Thornton Heath, Surrey.

WANTED Known, MAUD JONES, D. Bass, Disengaged May 24. 18, Arthur-road, Brixton, S.W. 9.

WANTED, Engt., by Bass Player. M. D., c/o Payton and Sons, 6, Islington Green.

WANTED, by good Bassoon, Engt., any business; orch. or military; experienced in all lines; open at once. BASSOON, 5, Marine-cottages, East-st., Beach, Lowestoft.

WANTED, by Trombonist; expd. all lines; permanent or summer engt. 7, Rossetti-gardens, Flood-street, Chelsea, S.W. 3.

WANTED, Engagement by experienced Lady 'Cellist; would deputise. Box 235, "The Era."

WANTED Known, 'Celliste wishes seaside engagement. Write, Box 263, "The Era."

WANTED Known, experienced 'Celliste, at liberty May 24; S.W. or W. preferred. MILMAN, 20, Quain-mansions, Queen's Club-gardens, W. 14.

WANTED Known, Lady 'Celliste, experienced, now disengaged; London or Seaside Hotel preferred. 24, Manchester-street, W.

WANTED Known, first-class Lady 'Celliste requires engagement; London only; any business. First-class offers entertained. Coms., MISS D. DESFRENNES, 42, Elgin-crescent, Nottinghill, W.

WANTED, by experienced 'Celliste, engagement in hotel, café, or cinema; Manchester or district. Please state terms, &c., Box 249, "The Era."

WANTED, by exp. 'Cellist, Summer Engt.; short season seaside preferred; would deputise. Offers to H., 62, Islington-row, Birmingham.

WANTED, Sunday Engt. by good 'Cellist; cinema or café; would deputise. 'CELLIST, 147, Winchester-road, Lower Edmonton, N.9.

WANTED, engagement by experienced Solo and Orchestral 'Cellist, also Pianist-Organist; hotel or café; season or permanent; both West-End experience. Good offers only to PIANIST, 164, Bravington-road, Maida Hill, W. 9.

WANTED, by 'Cellist, thoroughly exp., engagement in cinema; evenings only. Box 264, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by 'Cellist, afternoons only; London. Apply Box 233, "The Era."

WANTED, Engt. by first-class 'Cellist, London only. Address, VINCENT 180, Lambeth-terrace, S.E.

WANTED Known. You will want reliable Deputies for Whitsun. Musicians will be difficult to get. Remember the trouble-saving 'phone number; Museum 826, or wire, "Windonorch., Ox., London." SALON ORCHESTRA SOCIETY, 34, Oxford-st., W. 1.

WANTED Known, 'Cellist, experienced, would join Works Orchestra, where employment found with prospects of advancement. Box 230, "The Era."

WANTED Known, 'Cellist, excellent references, substantiated, wishes good engagement, preferably afternoon, or night only. District, W., S.W., or N.W. Box 280, "The Era."

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by first-class Flute and Piccolo, Engagement with good Orchestra or Military Band, touring the Provinces or Abroad; single, good appearance, and can play; not afraid of work, but wants some good money, and is not a grouser. "PRIMA," Box 67, "The Era."

WANTED, Engt. by Pianist, permanent or deputy, at liberty; reliable; thoroughly expd.; any business; A.M.U. F. A. WATSON, Theatre, Perth, N.B.

WANTED, Summer Engagement by Pianiste, open air. Address, A. BROWN, 6, Cemetery-road, North Wales.

WANTED Known, Solo Organist, A.R.C.O., desires Engagement in Hotel or Café; can take Piano. Wire terms to HOOD, 116, Albany-road, Coventry.

WANTED, engagement by experienced and reliable Orchestral Organist; London or Provinces; reasonable terms. Write Box 246, "The Era."

WANTED, Engt. by Orch. Organist (pipe or otherwise); South England or Abroad. Box 192, "The Era."

WANTED, engagement by first-class Orchestral Pipe Organist and Pianist; would deputise. JOSLAND, 31, E. Dulwich-grove, S.E.

WANTED, joint engagement by Pipe Organist and Pianist; seaside or town; both first class. JOSLAND, 31, East Dulwich-grove, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement by Musical Organist, used to 'cello parts; £6 10s. Box 254, "The Era."

WANTED, by Pianist-Organist, Cinema Musical Director; high-class and extensive library; 9 years' exp. pictures; 4 years last appointment; highest references. PIANIST, 91, Albemarle-road, York.

WANTED Known, exp. Pianiste-Organiste (pipe or otherwise) desires change; Orch. or Solo; London only. Box 234, "The Era."

WANTED, Engt. together, brilliant Pianist-Organist (double First or Second Violin) and a tip-top Solo Clarinet (double Viola); cinema preferred. What offers? Wire or write, CHESTER, 5, Dorset-place, Colchester.

WANTED, engagement by experienced Musical Organist. Write, Box 258, "The Era."

WANTED, Engt. by exper. Orches. Pianiste-Organiste; London or suburbs. Box 271, "The Era."

WANTED, Engt. by 2 ladies, pianiste and 'celliste, together or separate; both well experienced any business; London only; W.E. preferred. MARIE VALENTINE, 145a, High-st., Watford.

WANTED, Engagement by Lady in Cinema, brilliant solo pianiste; artistic, illustrative playing; own library; experienced; accept post as relief or assist management; smart, educated, reliable; moderate terms, hours. MISS WILLINSGALE, 50, Grove-road, Atherstone, Warwickshire.

WANTED, Engt., Lady Pianiste, exp. orchestral or relief; would deputise S.E. district preferred; good sight reader; extemp. PIANISTE, 87, Peckham Rye, S.E. 15.

WANTED, first-class Relief Pianiste (lady) requres change; good library drama and comedy; can dep. at drums; slight orch. ex.; ex. ref. from present engt.; lib. 31st; London or dep., week seaside. PIANISTE, 60, Bride-st., London, N. 7.

WANTED, Engt., Pianiste-Vocaliste and Solo Violinist; married; good refs. and lib.; exp.; Scotland or North England pref. MUSICIANS, 8, Granville-rd., Harrogate.

WANTED, Engt., good Orchestral Pianiste; London or suburbs. M. D., 17, Cobbett-road, Well Hall, S.E.

WANTED, by brilliant Relief Pianiste (extemporiser), cinema engagement; would deputise; or as Pianiste-Elocutionist for concerts; excellent accompaniste; experienced. Letters, "CORONA," Box 241, "The Era."

WANTED Known, Young Lady Relief Pianiste, at liberty, London or districts only. GRAY, 31, East Dulwich-grove, S.E. 22.

WANTED, by Pianiste, Re-engagement, any sort of business. D., Gould's, 54, New Oxford-street.

WANTED, by exp. Orch. Pianiste, well up in Tavan, standard overtures, suites, &c. PIANISTE, 88, Fairholt-rd., Stoke Newington, N.

WANTED Known, MISS BERYL GREENE, diseng.; thor. exp. Orch. Pianist; 10 years' exp. cinema; just term. 2 years' engt. Also desires engts. for accomp. vocalists, instrumentalists, &c. Open to deputise; London or suburbs. 3, Arnold-road, Tooting Junction, S.W. 17.

WANTED, by young lady Pianist (orchestral), engagement. Write or wire, 152, Lansdowne-road, Dalston, N.E.

WANTED, Engt. by Relief Pianiste; only where experience is required; tour or seaside. P., 89, Elm Park, Brixton Hill, S.W. 2.

WANTED, Engt., by Solo Pianiste or Organiste; afternoons. 56, Creighton-rd., South Ealing, W. 5.

WANTED, Engagement by Lady Orchestral Pianiste, also Violinist-Leader; would deputise; Sundays or afternoons, to 5.30. PIANISTE, 47, Spencer Park, Wandsworth-common, S.W. 18.

WANTED, Engagement by young Lady Pianiste, solo or orchestral; cinema experience. Write, PIANISTE, 99, Bishops-rd., Fulham, S.W. 6.

WANTED, Engagement by Orchestral Pianiste; also Lady 'Celliste (London or suburbs. Apply, 9, Windermere-road, Ealing, W. 5.

WANTED, re-engagement, experienced Orchestral Pianiste, L.R.A.M.; Tavan and standard works; London preferred. Audition. Box 273, "The Era."

WANTED, by first-class Orchestral Pianist (lady), Hotel Engagement; seaside preferred; disengaged middle of June; highest refs. Write, Box 268, "The Era."

WANTED Known, exp. Relief Pianist, extemp., vacant Sunday 23rd.

Apply, Box 191, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by Relief Pianist; afternoons or evenings; used to cinemas. Box 270, "The Era."

WANTED Known, Pianist, Met. Music Hall, Edgware-road, at 11b. Monday; double violin; exp. Acc., C.P., or Theatre. Wire terms, COLE, 47, Aberfeldy-street, Poplar, E.

WANTED, Engt. as Relief Pianist, or other lines; perm. or deputy; good rep., rags, &c.; no sight reading; mod. terms. FRANK, 69, Netherwood-rd., W. 14.

WANTED Known, Situation as Kinema Orchestral Pianist, in seaside town; West of England preferred; own library if required; standard works and high-class music a specialty; open up Whit Monday. What offers? Reply, FRED. CHAS. HANWELL, 17, St. Bryan's-road, Westbourne Park, London, W. 10.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Pianist (gent.), June 21, first-class Offers for position in dance orchestra or Concert-Party (res.), or Pictures (solo only). Terms, H. STANTON, 1, Bridge-road, Bedford.

WANTED, by thoroughly experienced Pianist, deputising or good permanency. DORIS LEDERS, "Glaslyn," Station-road, Sidcup.

WANTED Known, Pianist at Mb., combine Violin; exp. acc.; C.P., music hall; can open on wire. COLE, 47, Aberfeldy-st., Poplar, E.

WANTED Known, brilliant Solo Cinema Pianist disengaged; those replying previously kindly repeat; letters registered, stamps refunded for same. MISS WILLINSGALE, 50, Grove-rd., Atherstone, Warwickshire.

WANTED, Engagement, by Orchestral Pianist; hotel, cinema, jazz, &c.; any business; big library; seaside preferable. L. NEWMAN, 13, Rupert-street, W. 1.

WANTED Known, exp. Relief Pianist, extemp., vacant Sunday, 23rd.

Apply, Box 191, "The Era."

WANTED, GOOD PERMANENT ENGAGEMENT AT, OR NEAR, SEASIDE TOWN, BY THOROUGHLY COMPETENT AND EXPERIENCED PIANIST; EXCELLENT REFS. BOX 204, "THE ERA."

WANTED, Engagement by first-class Orchestral Pinanist or as first-class Relief; would deputise. JOSLAND, 31, E. Dulwich-grove, S.E.

WANTED, Season Engagement by first-class Solo Pianist, good-class pictures or variety; reliable and good library. E. FRYER, 56, Garibaldi-street, Warrington.

WANTED, Engagement by Orchestral Pianist; £6. Box 253, "The Era."

WANTED, Engt. by Orchestral Pianist; cinema, café, or dance. Coms., G. L., 8, Ethelburga-street, Battersea.

WANTED, by Relief (Pianist male), good, engagement; London area. PAGE, 375, Latimer-road, North Kensington, W. 10.

WANTED, by Jazz Banjoist, engt., odd nights or perm. A. COOMBES, 31, All Saints-road, Westbourne Park, W.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Jazz Banjoïnist; seaside or Continent preferable; reasonable terms. Write, B. KAY, 4, Constantine-rd., Hampstead, N.W. 3.

WANTED Known, Harpist (orchestral), now at liberty, desires engagement in cinema or theatre in London. HENRY, 18, Bowerdean-street, Fulham, S.W.

WANTED, Engt. capable Harmonium or American Organist (lady), powerful player; second fiddle parts, &c.; willing to relieve at piano; evenings only; £2 10s.; Surrey preferred. ETHEL HOPE, 169, Walton-road, Woking, Surrey.

TO OUR ADVERTISERS.

WHITSUN HOLIDAYS.

The NEXT ISSUE of "THE ERA" will be published on THURSDAY, MAY 27. Advertisements intended for that issue must reach this Office not later than first post WEDNESDAY morning, May 26. "The Era" Offices will be open from 10 a.m. to 12 noon on Whit Monday.

WANTED, Engt., by Drums, Tympani, &c.; Varieties, Theatre, or Cinema; exp. Tavan arrangements; young, smart; highest refs; North preferred. RYAN, 16, Wordsworth-st., Burnley.

WANTED Known, that ALF. PEEL, Drums and Tymps., &c., is at liberty; any business.

Apply, 40, Bouverie-road West, Folkestone.

WANTED, Jazz Drummer Jazz, vacant to accept Engagement, distance no object; first-class showman; just finished a long winter engagement; experienced in both exhibition and dances; first-class references. Box 257 "The Era."

WANTED, engagement as Double Drummer in theatre, varieties, or pictures. Address G. P., 40, Sidney-street, All Saints, Manchester.

WANTED, as Drums and Tymps., immediate engagement; season or permanency. DRUMMER, 29, Union-street South, Halifax.

WANTED Known, highly experienced Trap Drummer, owing to unforseen circumstances, has been placed out of Engt. and now wants new; would go anywhere. Write, Box 284, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement for London or seaside, by Trap Drummer; could provide trio; terms moderate. DRUMMER, 41, Broomsleigh-street, Mill-lane, N.W. 6.

WANTED, by highly reputed Double Drummer, Summer Season Engagement; just completed long engagement West-End restaurant; reliable. Wire, 23, Jeffreys-road, S.W. 4. 'Phone, Vic. 2035.

WANTED, Engagement, by Drums (and Tympans, if provded). F. KENT, 36, Johnson-street, Westminster.

WANTED Known, high-class Trio, just terminating engagement at first-class cinema in Midlands, desires café or hotel; up-to-date library and high references. Apply, Box 275, "The Era."

WANTED, by Trio, Violin, Piano, and 'Cello, café or pictures; London or suburbs. Apply, 11, Bramley-rd., South Ealing, W.

WANTED, by 2 Violins and Pianist, evening engagements at private dances; music found. For terms, apply HACKER, 4, Hughenden-rd., W. 6.

WANTED Known, Ladies' Trio or Quartette, all well-known soloists; open to engagement; West End only. Write, Box 242, "The Era."

WANTED, engagement by first-class Trio or small Orchestra, for cinema; evenings only preferred. Box 195, "The Era."

WANTED, engagement by Refined Trio, Violinist, 'Cellist, and Pianiste (under Royal patronage); all branches; cinema preferred, but not essential. Wire or write, W. E. FOGG, Esq., Hill Cottage, Stock-road, Billericay, Essex.

WANTED, by a first-class Trio, all thoroughly experienced. Address, ABBOTT, 47, Uxbridge-road, Shepherd's Bush, W.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

THE BRONCHO BILL SHOW. WANTED Immediately, for tenting, first-class Ground Acts, also a good Japanese Troupe. Write, lowest terms first letter, all coms., J. SWALLOW, 6, Thornly-st., Wolverhampton.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED Known, ROLLO on the High Rope. An Ideal Gala Act. A Real Sensation. This week, Palace, Blackburn. P.A., 98, Peel-st., Rochdale.

WANTED Known, full Circus Programme and Horses, 12 acts, vac. Summer dates. Apply, ALBERT, 8, Dean-street, Over Winsford, Cheshire.

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WANTED, for the Original Touring Trades Exhibition,

Re-opening Sept., Oct. next,

Attractive Side-shows (shares only).

Spaces Vacant for Few Good Exhibits.

14 days per town.

24 Exhibitions annually.

Staff Hands of experience may write in.

SQUIRES & CO., Chartered Accountants, Secretaries, King's Court, Colmore-row, Birmingham.

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED Known. I Buy any kind of Musical Instruments and effects; also military music. Best price given. BAGGALEY, 7, Regent-bridge, Manchester.

WANTED, Generator, 60 volts, 60 amps., or above, to work from 220 to 230 volts, town current (D.C.); must be in perfect condition. State lowest price and where can be examined. FENTON, Public Hall, West Kirby.

WANTED, Large-sized Velvet Stage Draperies. State size, colour, and lowest price to YATES GREGORY, Pier, Colwyn Bay.

WANTED, Music Library for Cinema. Catalogue and price to G. D., 40, Lowray-road, Southsea.

MOSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED Known, to Managers and others, Trio want change; London Cinema; evenings only; fine library; reasonable offer accepted; no agents. The "Kinema Weekly" of May 6, 1920, says:—"The orchestra is not large, but being composed of good musicians produces effects which delight the ears of real music lovers. We congratulate the musical director on abstracting such a volume of melody from so small an orchestra." Offers to Box 269, "The Era."

WANTED Known to Cinema Managers, Trio at liberty shortly; extensive library. Offers. Box 278, "The Era."

WANTED, Engt., MME. BASSANO'S Unique Ladies' Jazz Bands and Entertainers. 8, Store-street, W.C. 1.

WANTED Known, Jazz Quartettes, Jazz Trios, Vacant for Summer Season. Early application is desirable. MME. MAY WALTER, 3, Macclesfield-st., Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED Known. You will want reliable Deputies for Whitsun. 'Phone Museum 826, or wire, "Windonorch, Ox., London." SALON ORCHESTRA SOCIETY, Leading Orchestra Providers, 34, Oxford-st., W. 1.

WANTED Known, If in need of first-class Musicians, Apply, THE CAVENDISH AGENCY, 109, Hatton-garden, Holborn, E.C. 1.

WANTED Known, The Revels Syncopated Orchestra is open for Summer Engagements, town or seaside; first-class combination. CONDUCTOR, 24, Oakford-rd., Tufnell Pk., N.W. 5.

WANTED Known, K. VAN BIENE'S Orchestral and Concert Agency. Bands and musicians supplied for all kinds of business. 43, Woodstock-road, Bedford Park, W. 4.

WANTED Known, BANDMASTER GUY and his Wonderful Military Band, in Smart Dress, Available for Booking fro mnow onwards, to 1923. English or Continental. Wonderful library of music. Apply, BANDMASTER GUY, 118, Greybound-lane, Streatham; or JULES GUISE, 25, Bonham-rd., Brixton.

WANTED Known, Orchestras, Musicians, Concert Parties, and Artists, all lines, supplied anywhere on South Coast by "South Coast Concert Direction," the supply that specialises in every kind of entertainment along the South Coast. Offices: 22, Victoria Park, Dover. (Also in London.)

WANTED Known, CLAUDE PENNLEYLAND, Conductor, Composer. Solo Violinist. Booked solid until Christmas, 1920.

SKATING WANTEDS.

WANTED, engagement with first-class Skating Rink as Mechanic or Instructor. Please state terms. Box 245, "The Era."

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, to Buy, Musical Library (orchestra, with piano), for hotel work or cinema. MR. THUN, 4, Gloucester-crescent, Regent's Park, N.W.

WANTED, Tabs, in good condition Particulars, HEARN, 22, Clavering avenue, Barnes.

PARTNERS WANTED.

WANTED Known, Advertiser (gent.), with some capital, desires partnership; theatre, resident concert party, or any sound show. Box 260, "The Era."

WANTED, Young Gentleman Partner, single, good appearance, dress well, for small theatre; £100. Address, Box 261, "The Era."

WANTED, for high-class Concert Party, successfully produced London, Lady or Gentleman who would take financial interest in same. Particulars, Box 243, "The Era."

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED Known, will MR. BOOTH (late of Manchester and last heard from at Dundee), write to MUSICIAN, 18, Winston-gardens, Ash-road, Headingley, Leeds.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED

WANTED, for May 24 (Bucs.), Aug. 2, 9, 30, Sept. 6, and all Immediate Dates. Send Date List and Terms.

DALTON FOR DATES.
DALTON FOR DATES.
DALTON FOR DATES.
DALTON FOR DATES.
DALTON FOR DATES.

57, Parsonage-road, Withington, Manchester.

HARRY LEATON'S AGENCY, 420, Sauchiehall-street, Glasgow. 'Phone, Douglas 3142. 'Grams, "Cockney, Glasgow."

WANTED, Revues, Big Vaudeville Combinations, Star Attractions, Artists of every description, for immediate dates, for first-class Theatres and Variety Houses. Particulars first letter. Interviews by appointment only. KENDALL'S AGENCY, Regent House, Regent-street, Leicester. 'Phone, 4214. Telegrams, "Mascots, Leicester."

WANTED, Acts every description, Monday onwards. PALACE, SUNDERLAND.

WANTED, Novelties, Specialities, Big Animal Acts, &c., for the following dates:—May 31, June 7, on. Address, with lowest terms, to MANAGER, Palace, Sunderland.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED Known, LES ASTIERS, Comedy Gymnast, liberty for galas, Monday next. Wire, 6, Kennington Park-road, London S.E.

WANTED Known, EDDY LEGG, comedian, well up in gags; good all-round artist; open to offer, C.P., R.M.C., &c. 2, Waverley-rd., Southsea.

WANTED Known, MR. LEN SHELDON, the Great Comedy Trick Pianist and Entertainer (composer to the late Mr. Mark Sheridan), late Ten Loonies Co., is at liberty.

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CARL ROSA OPERA.

With their imposing production of "Aida," with which they opened a season on Monday night at the Lyceum Theatre (where they are presented by Messrs. Melville), the Carl Rosa Company outdistanced even their own fine record. No better choice for a start than Verdi's Egyptian opera could have been made. It shows the company at its full strength, is lavishly mounted and "dressed," and employs some of their most notable artists in the principal parts. Miss Beatrice Miranda, Miss Doris Woodall, Mr. William Boland, and Mr. Hebden Foster are a quartette of singers not easily beaten, or even equalled, on the English opera stage. Their constant work, year in and year out, instead of telling on them adversely, seems to keep them fresh and fit. Certainly they have never sung better, either as soloists or in the ensembles—than on Monday. Miss Miranda's Aida is wonderfully matured and improved. Both her acting and singing effects are gained with ease and security. One could not wish, for instance, to hear the sustained high pianissimo notes at the close of the Nile scene solo more beautifully done. They had the "shimmer" on them that told of perfect ease of emission; while in the dramatic phrases the voice sounded full and brilliant. Mr. Boland, of course, is one of the few tenors who really can sing Rhadames' music. He has all, and more, the necessary power; so much, in fact, that his control in the "Heavenly Aida" was remarkable. Well as he sang this difficult solo, he was still better in the Nile scene duet and trio, and here, too, Mr. Foster, every inch the Ethiopian King as Amonasro, made his mark. The Amneris of Miss Doris Woodall equalled the rest. She preserves the beauty of her tone even in the most impassioned passages, and makes every phrase tell. Her acting, always powerfully dramatic, in the great scene of Rhadames' trial was sustained at a high emotional pitch. Mr. Arthur Winckworth's skill is, needless to say, well known. He made an excellent Ramphis, and Mr. Harrison Cook was not less effective as the King. Miss Gladys Cranston's well-sung Priestess and Mr. Wilson Thornton's Messenger completed the cast. The Thebes Gate scene, finely put on as has been said, was a feast of brilliant colour and movement. And, what with the exhilarating dances of the ballet, the spirit and vitality of the chorus singing, and the admirable way in which Mr. Henriquez de la Fuente (who got really fine playing out of the orchestra throughout the evening) worked up the imposing climax, made an effect on the audience that was little short of extraordinary. The huge house, packed from floor to roof, rose at the company and applauded in a manner that must have heartened and gratified every one of them.

"SUCH A NICE YOUNG MAN."

Comedy, in Three Acts, by H. F. Maltby, Produced for the First Time on Any Stage at the New Palace Theatre, Westcliff, on May 17.

This farcical comedy by Mr. Maltby, whose "Temporary Gentleman" made such a success in the West End, was produced most successfully on Monday night at Westcliff. It is a sort of counterblast to the Pussyfoot propaganda, but, quite apart from any bias in this direction, it is a capital character-sketch of lower middle-class life, with plenty of topical and up-to-date allusions. Quite the success of the piece was the capital farcical portraiture of that modern product the after-the-war servant, and as played by Miss Cassie King her eccentricities of speech and manner receive full and emphatic justice. A typical middle-class family having somewhat outrun the constable, and being compelled to take in a paying guest, get sufficiently taken in themselves. For this teetotal paragon of all virtues not only pays no rent and foists all sorts of worthless stuff on them, but steals fro mhis landlord, tries to betray his daughter, and eventually pay for the tabloids and chemical abominations which he persuades them to substitute for alcoholic refreshment. As the old song said, "he's so good, so kind to all the familee," that only the rugged old sea-captain Perkins sees through him, and, strongly aided by the long arm of coincidence, effectually checkmates his sinister designs. Exceedingly funny is the scene in the second act when the Roberts family are seen all suffering from acute dyspepsia and nervous irritability caused by the change from the comic slavey, Polly Bigwood, is the life and soul of the farce as exuberantly represented by Miss King. Mr. William Pringle is excellent as George Roberts, the highly-strung City man, and acts with nervous force and sense of character. Miss Elisabeth Drury gives a touch of realism to the part of his well-meaning but dull-witted spouse. Mr. J. M. Campbell gives a bluff, hearty rendering of the old sea-captain. Miss Joan MacLean make a pleasing ingenué as the guileless fascinator, Grace Roberts, and Mr. Henry O. Hewitt does not spare himself in the unpleasant part of the arch-hypocrite, swindler and worse, Alfred Cook of the title-rôle. The piece went without a hitch, thanks to Mr. Ralph Hutton and Mr. Wm. Patrick, who acted for Messrs. Herbert Jay and Frank Littler and the author, who produced, and who came before the curtain at the close of the performance to acknowledge the plaudits.

"RUNAWAY WILL."

Comedy, in Three Acts, by Charles Forrest, Produced at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, on Monday, May 17.

William Mossop ..... Joe Nightingale
Tubby Wadlow ..... Edgar Bruce
Henry Hobson ..... Stanley Turnbull
Nabwell Brown ..... Frank Fellows
Albert Prosser ..... Archibald Forbes
Howitt ..... W. T. Elworthy
First Shoe-hand ..... Bert Plage
Second Shoe-hand .. Harold Lancaster
Third Shoe-hand ..... S. Merion
Alice Prosser .. Margaret Scudamore
Mabel Dyerstreet ..... Miriam Ferris
Rachel ..... Nora H. Nicholson
Clytie Swindells ..... Maisie Horne
Maggie Mossop ..... Chris. Vincent

Presented by Messrs. Eugene C. Stafford and Hubert Woodward, and produced by Mr. Stanley Drewitt, Mr. Charles Forrest's "Runaway Will" is a sequel to Harold Brighouse's well-known Lancashire play, "Hobson's Choice." It is somewhat of a novelty for an author to take up the situation and characters of another author's play, but Mr. Forrest's idea has been carried through with the ready sanction of his friend Mr. Brighouse, and comparisons in characterisation, in the case of the principal characters at least, are practically nullified by the fact that the William Mossop of both plays is identified with the same original interpreter, namely, Mr. Joe Nightingale.

Mr. Brighouse, in "Hobson's Choice," left Will Mossop a rather self-satisfied type of successful business man, dramatically halved, as heroes are apt to be; Mr. Forrest depicts his fall from grace through some shrewd trials of the ups and downs of life.

The personality of Runaway Will is authentic, but the author, on the basis of his own idea, has invested him with a mean and foolish character at variance with that Will Mossop who made good in "Hobson's Choice." His wife, Maggie, wishes Will to embark on bigger schemes, but he is too mean and vain, and suspicious of her family. Maggie therefore uses her own brains, in league with her family, to extend the business, until Will, in order to obtain a divorce, eventually runs away in purely farcical fashion with his shop girl to Blackpool. The divorce is, of course, averted by a sentimental reconciliation. There is plenty of amusing and outspoken dialogue, but the plot is improbable, and the dialect is not that of Salford, where the action takes place. Mr. Joe Nightingale depicts the inane Will Mossop with distinctive humour; Miss Chris Vincent is excellent as Maggie; Mr. Stanley Turnbull is good as the pompous humbug, Hobson; and Miss Miriam Ferris plays well as Mabel.

MASKELYNE'S THEATRE OF MYSTERY.

London will extend a hearty welcome to Mr. Val A. Walker, late of H.M.S. Invincible, and described as the Wizard of the Navy. Mr. Walker's forte is extricating himself from difficult predicaments. Having emerged safely from sundry awkward situations, including a diminutive ship's cell, the climax of Mr. Walker's act comes when he successfully releases himself from a model submarine completely submerged in a tank of water. This is a remarkable feat. Mr. Walker's performance is considerably enhanced by plenty of ingenious patter, and was very favourably received.

Royal Raceford gives a marvellous demonstration of the wonders of electricity, and the movements of the committee (drawn from the audience) under the influence were most diverting. Musical extracted music from all kinds of out-of-the-way objects and instruments. Owen performed a series of most baffling illusions; Mr. Warwick Pryce proved himself a most original entertainer at the piano;

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COVENT GARDEN OPERA.

"LA TOSCA."

Puccini's "La Tosca" followed Puccini's "La Bohème," on the second night of the season. As often before, Mme. Edvina was the Tosca. She has, in fact, made her rôle her own by the power of her acting and her physical and temperamental fitness to the character. Her voice seems to improve in quality as the years go on; but it must be said that her singing has often been more commendable than on this occasion. Mr. Gaetano Bavagnoli, the new conductor, had all his work cut out to follow her erratic tempi. Mr. Anssean, the tenor who made his mark last year in French operas, was the Cavaradossi. He does not show so well in Italian rôles, possibly because one involuntarily compares him with big Italian tenors, and his stream of voice, though equally broad, has not the volume or the depth that Martinelli's, for instance, has. Still, he proves himself a sincere, thoroughly capable artist in all he undertakes. We were glad to welcome back the versatile Mr. Maguenat. He gives his Scarpia the melodramatic "grand air," and, besides looking well, acts well and sings well. Mr. Paterna, in a frankly farcical false nose, played the Sagrestano in a manner to match, with good success. The reliable Mr. Sampieri doubled the parts of Angelotti and Sciarrone, Mr. De Keyser was effective as Spoletta, and Miss Amy Sissons, of the Beecham Company, sang the Shepherd's song, with rather too sophisticated tone quality.

Mr. Bavagnoli, who came in for a big share of the evening's compliments, evidently knows his Puccini through and through. He got every possible dramatic and emotional effect out of the score, and the piling up of sound he accomplished in the finale of the second act, until the volume seemed to fill the house almost to bursting point, was an astonishing feat of conductorship.

"I PESCATORI DI PERLE."

It is probable that Wednesday's performance of "I Pescatori di Perle" will be remembered and spoken of in years to come as the first appearance here of Mme. Graziella Pareto. She is a singer of a type that is rare now, but which must have been comparatively common in the high days of Italian song; and she worthily carries on the traditions of that "golden epoque." Her light soprano is wonderfully sweet, flexible, and of a candid purity; and she uses and controls it with such ease and mastery that Leila's florid phrases and sustained notes "in alt" sounded as though the delivery of them were mere child's play. Her youth and slim grace make Mme. Pareto particularly welcome as operatic heroine.

It must be a dozen years or so since Bizet's opera was heard at Covent Garden; so that it comes to the present generation as new. The book, by M. Carré and P. B. Piestre, is its weak point. The orchestral music is often charming, full of delicate effects—and in the hands of Sir Thomas Beecham, who conducted, it lost nothing of its grace and beauty—though to modern ears it may not always seem expressive of the text or the action. The exponents of the chief parts have a grateful task; each has a singing chance for distinction. All the rôles were well filled on Wednesday. Mr. Thomas Burke, the Nadir, sang with great refinement of tone and taste; Mr. Badini, whose light, but vibrant, Ballistini-like baritone was much better suited than as Marcello on the opening night, put passion and sincerity into Zurga's music, and Mr. Edmund Burke, imposing in appearance as the fanatical priest Nurabad, delivered his phrases with a fine sonority.

The opera is picturesquely staged, and the big scenes—in some of which the chorus sang with excellent effect—are full of movement and colour.

"LA BOHEME."

The Scottish tenor, Mr. Joseph Hislop, who comes to Covent Garden, via Swedish and Italian opera houses, made his début as Rodolfo in Friday's "La Bohème," meeting with immediate and unqualified success. At the close of "The gelida manina" Sir Thomas Beecham, who again conducted, as on the opening night, had to hold his bâton for full two minutes while the house expressed approval. Mr. Hislop's voice is of first-rate quality—warm, rich, and equal throughout its range. He uses it like an artist, varying the tone-colour according to the sentiment of the words; and he is a good actor, identifying himself with the character. The other changes in the cast were all to the good. Miss Desirée Ellinger looked charming, acted cleverly, and sang delightfully as Musetta. Mr. Dinh Gilly's finely sung, mercurial Marcello was, as usual, a great acquisition, although he did maintain a sort of echo duet with the prompter now and then; and Mr. Huberdeau's mellow bass told well in Colline's "Vecchia Zimarra." Mme. Kousnezova was again the Mimi, and the rest of the cast were as on Monday.

"DON PASQUALE."

If only for the sake of so charming a singer as Mme. Concetta Paterna, the revival on Saturday, after an interval of ten years of the seventy odd years old Donizettian "Don Pasquale" was welcome. The new soprano sang Norina's music with a lightness and grace indescribable; and thoroughly at ease in the part, was demure, amorous, vixenish, and coaxing by turns, and in every mood captivating. With Mr. Paterna, who, seen at last in his right line of business, that of primo buffo in the old-school operas, was able to show himself the excellent singer and humorous actor he really is, as the matrimonially disillusioned Don; Mr. Badini, whose flexible baritone and buoyant, easy style fit him well for the part of the scheming Dottore Malatesta (a sort of barber Figaro in the plot, just as Norina is another edition of Rosina of Rossini's opera); and as Ernesto, Mr. Marcello Govini, whose light tenor and his method of using it were both pleasing, the concerted numbers—particularly the fine quartet in the second act—were admirably sung. Mr. Sampieri's Notarro completed the cast. The orchestral playing, under Mr. Bavagnoli, was brilliant.

"PELLEAS ET MELISANDE."

The performance of Debussy's "Pelléas et Mélisande"—revived on Thursday—came as near perfection as it is possible to get in the case of a work presenting such extraordinary difficulties of interpretation. We may have had finer singing, in some of the rôles, in past years, but voice counts for less in this than in almost any other music-drama. What does count is the measure of sympathy and understanding the interpreters of Maeterlinck and Debussy bring to their work, and in this important factor Thursday's cast were not found wanting. Mme. Edvina's Mélisande is, of course, familiar, and it is as moving and beautiful as ever it was. To come from the elemental Tosca on Tuesday to the mystical Mélisande on Thursday is to leap a gulf as wide as the poles are apart. To perform the feat with success, to "live" both women—and to sing them—as Mme. Edvina does, is a test of cleverness and versatility that possibly no other living actress-singer could sustain. Once more we had to admire the artistry of Mr. Maguenat, whose nobly-drawn Pelléas was youthful in feeling as well as in looks, and sung with ease, though the part was written for a tenor. Of the poor, self-torturing Golaud Mr. Cotreuil gave a strong study, showing him blinded by passions and egotism, and moving our pity for his human failings and limitations. Very fine, too, was Mr. Huberdeau's wise, benignant old Arkel. As the child, Yniold, Miss Elsie McDermid sang cleverly and prettily; there was a rich-voiced Geneviève in Mme. Jacqueline Royer, and Mr. Edmund Burke made an impressive doctor. The orchestral playing, under Mr. Percy Pitt, was almost all that could be desired, the only fault was a tendency to over-strenuousness at times.

"THE GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE."

Play, in *Four Acts*, by Starr Blanche, Incidental Music Composed by Miss Joan Lanchester, Produced, for the First Time in England, at the Palace Pier, St. Leonards-on-Sea, on Monday, May 10th.

Earl of Carrimore ..... Mr. Harold Warburton
Captain Bertram Douglas ..... Mr. Richard Warren
Iris Douglas ..... Miss Frances Percival
Grace Majoribanks ..... Miss Gladys Rosalie
Van Vaan Dorp ..... Mr. Peter Wilfred
Hinton Beverley ..... Mr. Anthony Hope
Mr. Jackland ..... Mr. Charles Fairfax
Lady Douglas ..... Miss Nora Martyn
Nurse Margaret Cheyne ..... Miss Bessie Osborne
Little Constance ..... Miss Irene Wisher
Father Shaun Kelly ..... Mr. James Daly

This play, full of human interest, has had a long and successful run in Australia, and is being presented in the provinces prior to its production in the West End by Miss Frances Percival. Nurse Margaret Cheyne is engaged by Lady Douglas to look after her blind daughter Iris, and she falls in love with and marries secretly Capt. Bertram Douglas, Iris' brother. War is declared in the East, and Bertram has to proceed there, but before he goes Margaret implores him to tell his mother of their marriage, otherwise she will leave him, and he will never see her or their child again. He promises faithfully to do so, but plays the coward when his mother tells him of her plans for his marriage with Miss Grace Majoribanks, an heiress. Margaret overhears their conversation, and afterwards taxes him with his cowardly conduct, and leaves the house there and then. Adopting her sister's name, she goes to Father Shaun Kelly's Mission House in Mombassa, East Africa. Here we find her in the next act with her daughter Constance. Grace Majoribanks, now Mrs. Jack Grey, a widow, has been ordered to Africa for her health, and as Father Kelly's place is the only one known to her in Africa, she naturally goes there. Face to face with Margaret, she is on the point of saying who she is, but Margaret is able to convince them that she is not the nurse they think she is. Father Kelly is offered a chaplaincy in Cornwall, which he accepts, and takes Margaret and her child with him. Margaret does not know that it is to Lady Douglas' home they are going, as that lady has been married again to the Earl of Carrimore. The servants are all on strike when the party arrive, but Father Kelly soon mends matters. The child is the ultimate means whereby Bertram and Margaret are brought together.

Miss Frances Percival herself played the part of Iris the blind girl, in a sweetly pathetic manner. Margaret had a fine exponent in Miss Bessie Osborne. Lady Douglas, the aristocratic mother, was portrayed with much distinction by Miss Nora Martyn, while Miss Gladys Rosalie as Miss Majoribanks was very good. Father Kelly is the outstanding part among the gentlemen, and the part was embodied in fine style by Mr. James Daly. Mr. Harold Warburton supplied a capital sketch as the Earl of Carrimore; Mr. Peter Wilfred was amusing as an African Dutchman; Mr. Anthony Hope in the rôle of the inquiry agent was most successful; while Miss Irene Wisher—a clever child actress—played excellently as Margaret's daughter Constance, and was responsible for a pretty dance in the second act. "The Garden of Remembrance," the ballad which runs through the play, is a melodious number, written by Mr. Scott Alexander, and set to music by Wayton Hope. That sound actor, Mr. Scott Alexander, who has staged and produced the show, has done his work extremely well. Mr. Alfred Batt is looking after Miss Percival's interests as general business and acting manager.

FLORENCE ETLINGER THEATRE.

A capital performance of a triple bill was given at the Florence Etlinger Theatre, Paddington-street, on Friday, May 7. Miss Monica Ewer's two new pieces were in marked contrast. "—— And Cruelty," a strong emotional scene, evidently aimed at the man-made law of divorce, by which it is impossible for a woman to get a divorce unless cruelty as well as infidelity can be proved, was perhaps the best. Mrs. Charteris, in order to escape from the bonds of wedlock, and free herself from her tyran—— and unfaithful spouse, and marry a young doctor whom she loved, in an impassioned scene, taunts her husband, who, despite her lover's presence, seizes her by the throat in a fury of rage, and hurls her to the ground. She is thus set free, indeed, but at the cost of her life, her extremity of emotion having acted fatally on a weak heart. Miss Irene Hentschel acted with considerable emotional ability, and received good support from Mr. William Armstrong, a subtly sinister embodiment of the despicable husband; and Mr. Cecil A. Trouncer artistic as the well-meaning young Doctor James Harding.

"A Sweet Adventure" is in lighter vein, and is a charming old-world comedy. Mr. J. Fisher-White acted with much poetic feeling as Charles Vance, the honest cobbler, who, masquerading as a gentleman of fashion, wins the heart of sweet Mistress Betty Lovelace, enacted with exquisite daintiness and grace by Miss Joan Vivian Rees. ..hilst amusing herself trying on shoes and awaiting her swain, she discovers him in the shoemaker waiting on her with such assiduity, but she forgives him his humble calling for the sake of his honesty and devotion. A good word must be said for Mr. A. Filmer as Old Pete, the family friend and adviser. The artistic setting of the piece was a delight to the eye.

In "A Scrap of Silk," the playlet by Mrs. Leo Myers, Miss May Congdon was sparkling and vivacious as the fascinating widow, Eve Marchmonte; Mr. Charles Field gave a refined and quietly humorous rendering of the part of Philip; and Mrs. Walter Chapman was very droll as the blustering Jerry Williams. Some charming instrumental music was provided under the direction of Miss Rosabel Watson.

Mr. Hilaire Belloc has been commissioned to write an introduction to Mr. John Tussaud's "Romance of Madame Tussaud's," which Messrs. Doran are to issue during the autumn as an edition de luxe.

THEATRE GIRL'S CLUB.

MEETING AT MANSION HOUSE.

The Lord Mayor presided at a meeting held at the Mansion House on Friday afternoon in support of the Theatre Girls' Club, which is carried on at 99, Greek-street, Soho.

The Chairman said it was important that young girls of the theatrical profession who came to London should be able to find a home like the one founded by Mrs. Edward Compton in Greek-street, where they would have cheerful society and inexpensive rooms.

The Club's Founder.

Mr. Cyril Maude told stories of the dinginess of theatrical lodgings, and said that the art of "mothering" the young actresses at the start of their career was one specially dear to the heart of Mrs. Compton. She had started the club because she found two girls singing in the streets. They were out of an engagement, and had no other way of getting money to allow them to stay in their lodgings. The girls at the club only paid 25s. a week, and when out of work they were charged even less.

Miss Ellen Terry's Appeal.

Miss Ellen Terry said she felt very strongly that the Theatre Girls' Club ought to be supported. All of them found life very difficult in these times, and perhaps none found it more difficult than the girl who went upon the stage full of hope and illusions, and found it hard at the beginning to earn even a living wage. The Actors' Association had done a good deal to secure fair and even good pay for those in work, but the club helped those who were out of work, and provided them with a home at a very moderate price. At present, however, it could accommodate only fifty girls, and they wanted to increase this to at least one hundred. She wished some rich benefactor would come along and by his help make this possible.

Clerical Support.

The Bishop of Willesden, in the absence through illness of the Dean of York, spoke in support of the claims of the club, and said that the Actors' Church Union was thankful that there was such a club in existence; and for the good work that it did.

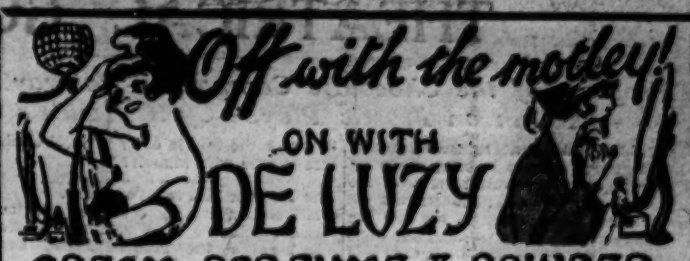
Mr. Kingsbury, secretary of the Actors' Church Union, referred to the difficulty experienced by young girls in obtaining suitable lodgings, and pointed out that the club was a home and a haven of safety.

Smart Dress Essential.

Miss Fay Compton expressed her regret that her brother, who was in Italy, was thus prevented from attending the meeting. She desired to act as a beggar for the girls, and pleaded for ladies' garments which could be turned into pretty dresses and coats for the girls. It was of the greatest importance that a theatrical girl should be smartly dressed, as very often an engagement depended on that alone.

Mr. W. Pett Ridge followed with a humorous speech in support of the claims of the club, and Mrs. Arnold Glover, the Lady Mayoress, also testified to the good work which was done by the club.

Mrs. Edward Compton proposed a vote of thanks to the Lord Mayor for allowing the use of the Mansion House for the meeting, and to the speakers.



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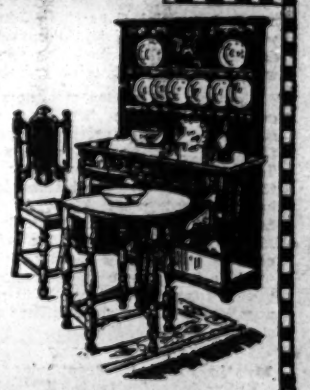

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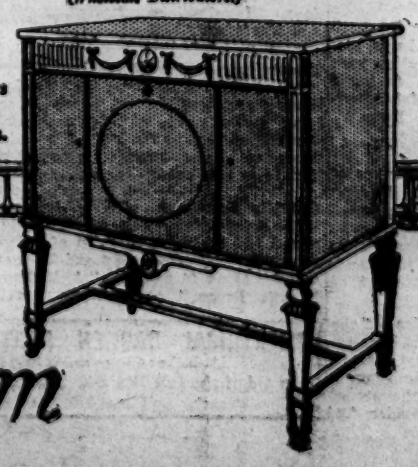

Adam

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

Progress of the Chocolate Campaign—Railway Concession Negotiations —A Run on Mystic Plays—Cyril Maude's Gilbertian Character.

The Public and Theatres' Sweetmeats.

Encouraging progress is being made by the campaign to secure the removal of the restrictions on sales of sweetmeats in theatres, and it is difficult to see how the Government will be able to resist the overwhelming public desire which is manifested that the ban should be removed. Munitions of war are being abundantly supplied, and the list of subscriptions, which we print elsewhere, is a long and representative one.

Opposition meanwhile has been started by the confectionery trade, and sandwichmen are to be observed patrolling the streets bearing boards which plaintively ask, "Why should theatres have the monopoly of selling sweets?" But theatres do not seek any monopoly. They merely wish to carry on their business as they did before the war, and against which no arguments have been raised. They have not the slightest objection to regular traders keeping open till midnight if they choose. It is for them to ask the Government for permission to open, and if they can show as good a reason for such facilities as places of amusement, then their success is assured.

Regular traders, however, do not desire to keep open longer. The great bulk of them have expressed the opinion that early closing does not affect their profits, and they prefer to shut at the time fixed by the Act. It saves lighting expenses, and it saves service. In the case of the theatres it saves neither, but because traders do not wish to carry on their business during certain hours, amusement providers have to suffer a loss of thousands of pounds, not one penny of which can be said to be diverted from the receipts of the tradesmen.

The Railway Concessions.

The question of the railway concessions to travelling companies and artists will come up for consideration at a meeting convened for the purpose of the Entertainments Industrial Council on June 1. The whole matter will be discussed, and a deputation will no doubt be appointed to wait upon the Minister of Transport.

Although the London managers who send out companies are benefiting very considerably by the privileges, particularly that regarding the free truck, won by the Touring Managers' Association, we hear that one or two of the leading impresarios have refused point blank to join that Society. In face of the work done by the Association in regard to the railway concessions, that seems hardly fair, and it would not surprise us if our suggestion that the railway concessions be restricted to members of the Association should be strongly urged.

Mystic Plays in Prospect.

Before departing for the States Mr. David Belasco promised, if possible, to send us another David. The latter is Dave Warfield, the great American-Jewish comedian, who has achieved such overwhelming successes in America, chiefly in Belasco dramas. Should he come to London, Mr. Warfield will appear in Belasco's plays, "The Auctioneer," "The Music Master," and "The Return of Peter Grimm."

In the character of Peter Grimm, a part full of that gentle, unaffected pathos of which he is such a masterly exponent, Mr. Warfield enacts the phantom of a man who returns from the grave (as it were) in order to watch over, warn, and help his beloved ones. It is a very beautiful play, and should prosper here in these days of craving for mystic "messages."

Comedy and Creepiness.

An eerie drama, which will be seen in London probably a good while before David Warfield comes here, is one written by Arthur Stanley, and entitled "The Man Who Knows the Future." Mr. Bromley Challenor tells us that he will present it at some Scala Theatre matinées directly after he has given the first London production of "The Yellow Cockade" (by himself and Wilfred Stephens) there on or about next Saturday or Monday. Mr. Challenor's character in "The Man Who Knows the Future" is a very striking compound of comedy and "creepiness."

An additional play possessing something of the uncanny is one just acquired by Mr. Leon M. Lion. It is the work of that brilliant novelist-dramatist, Mr. Horace Annesley Vachell, and is entitled "Mummery."

Moreover, Mr. J. Bernard Fagan has just signified his intention of reviving at the Duke of York's in due course his noble adaptation of Brieux's "La Foi," namely, "False Gods." Mr. Fagan is now looking for a fine actor to take the character "created" by Sir Herbert Tree, who produced this adaptation at His Majesty's.

"Sweethearts" Again.

We learn that Mr. Cyril Maude is contemplating appearing (first at a matinée) in the late Sir W. S. Gilbert's splendid two-act play, "Sweethearts." He will, of course, enact the character of Harry Spreadbrow, who is 21 in the first act, and 51 in the second.

"Three Bears."

Mr. T. C. Dagnall, who is running Mr. Cyril Maude and Miss Connie Ediss in the successful "Lord Richard in the Pantry," at the Criterion, tells us that he is preparing to try on tour (in conjunction with Mr. Robert Macdonald) a new fantastic comedy adapted from a successful American script, and entitled "Three Bears."

A Shakespearean Record.

Under the heading, "Banner Bearers of Shakespeare," Mr. Archibald Haddon prints in the "Daily Express" the record of the Thorndikes, Sybil and Russell, who between them have played 287 parts in Shakespeare. One would have to search long and arduously to find the equal of such a list.

"Imagine," adds Mr. Haddon, "the labour, the enthusiasm, they must have expended on the achievement of that marvellous feat. Mr. Russell Thorndike is probably an unrivalled expert in the art of "doubling." Has he ever, I wonder, had to doctor the text in order to avoid coming face to face with himself?"

The Martin Harvey Company.

Mr. Martin Harvey concluded his tour, which has lasted three months, on Saturday night at the Theatre Royal, York. Mr. and Mrs. Martin Harvey have maintained their entertainments and appeals for the war charities throughout the tour. They gave an afternoon concert in the Guild Hall, York, in aid of the Lord Roberts Memorial Workshops, and raised upwards of £60.

Shakespeare at the Surrey.

Mr. Ben Greet's popular Shakespearean Players started a season at the Surrey Theatre on Monday with "The Taming of the Shrew." Next week Mr. Greet will produce "The Merry Wives of Windsor," for which he has specially engaged that talented young actress, Miss Sylvia Yorke, to play Mistress Page. Miss Yorke recently created a part at the Ambassadors Theatre with great success under Mr. Lister-Williams' management.

The First New May Floral Play.

The Hamilton-Miln-Fairbairn management at the Surrey have just selected June 7 as the date for the production of the new 1620 drama, "The Mayflower," written by Mr. W. Edward Stirling and Mr. Alfred Hayes, M.A. From what we have heard of this drama it promises to be a highly effective, finely cast, and picturesque affair. It should deserve the extensive patronage of the American and other London-lodging celebrators of the coming tercentenary of the landing the "Mayflower" Pilgrims on New Plymouth Rock.

The Arts and Empire Day.

The League of Arts has arranged with the National Organisation of Girls' Clubs to give scenes from Shakespeare from 5 to 7 p.m., in the natural amphitheatre, about 300 yards east of the Serpentine Bridge, on Whit-Monday. The plays selected are: "A Winter's Tale," "As You Like It," "A Midsummer Night's Dream," "Macbeth," and "Romeo and Juliet."

Barrow Amateurs' Charity.

We have received from Mr. J. W. Brocklehurst, treasurer of the Barrow Amateur Dramatic Society, two cheques for £1 each as a donation to the Actors' Benevolent Fund and the Actors' Orphanage respectively, and the amounts have been duly remitted. Mr. Brocklehurst adds that the Society's recent performance of "The Mikado" resulted in a loss, but the members were wishful to maintain unbroken, if possible, their annual donation to charities, so the amounts were paid out of their reserve fund.

"Within the Law" Revival.

"The Young Visiters" made their last bow for the present at the Kingsway on Saturday, and this (Wednesday) evening Miss Edyth Goodall will revive at this theatre, by arrangement with Philip Michael Faraday, "Within the Law," which ran for over a year in 1913, at the Haymarket. Miss Goodall will play her original part of Margaret Taylor, and will be supported by an excellent cast, including Clarence Blakiston, Dennis Wyndham, Harold Anstruther, Geoffrey Wilmer, Kenneth Kent, Hubert Woodward, Clifton Alderson, and Marjorie Day.

Old Gaiety's Stage-door Keeper.

At the advanced age of eighty-five, Mr. Michael Tierney, who was for a period of seventeen years stage-door keeper at the old Gaiety Theatre, has died at Grimsby. A native of Ireland, he went to sea when only a youth, and while still young had experience in blockade-running in the Crimea, and was present at the bombardment of Odessa. When he retired from the sea with the rank of captain, he came to London, at the invitation of Mr. George Edwardes, who in 1886 gave him the position of stage-door keeper at the old Gaiety.

Hammersmith Attractions.

The King's, Hammersmith, is doing wonderfully good business just now. Last week Mr. Salmon, the courteous and enterprising manager for Mr. J. B. Mulholland, was hard pressed to find accommodation for the crowds who flocked to see Mr. Fred Terry in "The Scarlet Pimpernel," and "Much Ado About Nothing." On Saturday night, when the curtain rang down at the end of the visit Mr. Fred Terry was given a great ovation. The audience repeatedly called him before the curtain, and he had briefly to acknowledge the compliment paid him.

This week the musical comedy, "Going Up!" is being staged. It is an exceedingly bright show, and attractively presented. The choruses are especially strong, the principals are good, and the dresses are picturesque.

"Seven Days' Leave."

Mr. Walter Howard's play, "Seven Days' Leave," which had a phenomenal run at the Lyceum Theatre, will be the attraction next week at the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, with Mr. Alfred Paumier and Miss Annie Saker in their original parts. Mr. Mulholland is fortunate in securing this successful piece for the Whitsuntide holidays. There will be matinées on Monday and Thursday.

Theatrical Architect's Illness.

Mr. Frank Matcham, the well-known theatre architect, is, we regret to learn, lying seriously ill at his residence at Westcliff-on-Sea, suffering from blood-poisoning. Latest reports are to the effect that he is now out of danger.

Old Vic. Season.

The concluding week of the Old Vic. season will see the production of "Taming of the Shrew" on Monday and Wednesday evening (May 24 and 26), "A Midsummer Night's Dream" at Wednesday matinée (for schools only), and "The Merchant of Venice" on Thursday at 2 (for the general public). The last night of the Shakespeare season, Friday, May 28, will be devoted to a revel, including various scenes from Shakespeare plays, and ending with a frolic, in which practically every Shakespeare character will appear. The next season commences on Sept. 18.

Country Ballet and Music-Drama.

When the curtain rises on the short season of the Glastonbury Festival Players at the Old Vic. on May 31, Londoners will have the chance of seeing "The Immortal Hour," an opera of Mr. Rutland Boughton's, which was first produced in Glastonbury in 1914. On June 1 will be given the 17th century masque, John Blow's "Venus and Adonis," and the third programme to be offered is one of choral ballets and dances.

The Ladies' Kennel Association.

To-day (Wednesday) the One Day Championship Dog Show of the Ladies' Kennel Association will be revived, and, as in 1915, it is to be held in the beautiful grounds of the Ranelagh Club at Barnes. The aggregate number of entries is 2,250, only twenty-four fewer than was the case four years ago. To-day's gathering at Ranelagh, it should be added, is open to all, whether members or not.

Catholic Stage Guild.

At the committee meeting on May 5 the resignation of Mr. J. F. Williams, for nearly seven years hon. treasurer to the Guild, was accepted with much regret. Mr. G. Elliot Anstruther has been appointed to take Mr. Williams' place. Miss Dora Fellowes Robinson and Captain R. B. Mason will fill the vacancies on the committee occasioned by the change of hon. treasurer.

Robert Macdonald Returns.

Mr. Robert Macdonald has just returned, after a successful visit to New York in connection with "Paddy, the Next Best Thing," "Sunshine of the World," etc. He brings the welcome news that Mr. David Miller, the comedian so well known here in "Fair and Warmer," has made an enormous hit in Mr. Richard Walton Tully's production of "Keep Her Smiling."

Theatres Twice Nightly.

Commencing on Monday next with the musical play, "Too Many Girls," the Kennington Theatre will become a twice-nightly house, with performances at 6.45 p.m. and 9 p.m. Mr. Ernest Robs will continue to give the high-class attractions associated with his management of the theatre.

For the summer season the Theatre Royal, Guildford, will from Monday next revert to the "twice-nightly" policy.

The Drama in Manchester.

The annual general meeting of the Manchester Playgoers' Club was held on the 12th inst. In his report the honorary secretary (Mr. P. E. Doran) reviewed dramatic production in Manchester during the year, and said it showed a better range than at any time in the last five years. There had been a distinct advance in both plays seen and in the technique of production. The membership of the club has increased by 37 to 588.

"The Silent Watch."

Arthur Rosebery's new naval play, "The Silent Watch," which has met with a flattering reception in the country, will shortly be seen at the Kings' Theatre, Hammersmith.

Changes at Plymouth.

A change in the resident managership of the Theatre Royal, Plymouth, has taken place, Mr. W. P. Crowe having succeeded Mr. H. E. Jones. Mr. Crowe has already made a considerable number of friends, and his bonhommie will commend him to the large theatre-going public of the town.

By the way, the experiment of pit booking at the Theatre Royal is a pronounced success. It is not, perhaps, surprising that large numbers prefer it every day to standing in a queue, and in this regard it not only makes for the comfort of the patrons of the pit, but also relieves the pressure on the attendants at night. Many other leading theatres in the provinces are adopting the plan.

"Biffy."

Mr. James Glover will produce on Monday next at the Theatre Royal, Plymouth, a new farcical comedy in three acts, entitled "Biffy," by Henry Seton and William Ray. The cast will comprise:—Messrs. Tom Shelford, Paddy Dupree, Claude Allister, Fred Permain, Frank Willatts, and William Garrett, Misses Iris de Villiers, Florence Leclercq, Marjorie Chard, Lila Maravan, and Ella Danecourt.

Shakespearean Successes.

That clever young actor Henry Baynton and his company achieved another triumph at Huddersfield, where "House Full" was the rule on Monday and Tuesday, while on Wednesday at the production of "Julius Cæsar," with all new scenery, the enthusiasm was intense. The company, it should be added, is presented by Mr. Sydney Bransgrove, and Mr. R. Hay-Dillon is the general manager.

"Tarzan of the Apes" Dramatised.

Mr. Arthur Carlton and Mr. Arthur Gibbons have secured the world's rights in "Tarzan of the Apes," which has been adapted by Major Herbert Woodgate, and are making arrangements for a production in the West End of London at the earliest date. We hear that arrangements are also being made for a company to tour the provinces on a very large scale. The Jungle scene will be one of the finest efforts in scenic effects yet shown on the stage.

Stock at Manley.

Mr. Alfred Denville, who last year made such a remarkable success with his stock company at the Royal, Hanley, commenced a 16 weeks' season on Monday. His first twice-nightly production is "The Wandering Jewess," with Miss Denville a very young but clever actress in the title-rôle. Next week he presents "Proof," followed by other plays of similar character.

THEATRICAL GARDEN PARTY,
JUNE 22nd, 1920,
In Aid of the ACTORS' ORPHANAGE.
Tickets 3/- each. On Sale at THE ERA Office.

THE CHOCOLATE CAMPAIGN.

OVER £1,000 ALREADY SUBSCRIBED.

A gratifying degree of success is attending the campaign in favour of sweets being sold in theatres after 8 o'clock. Thousands of petition forms have already been signed, and applications for forms are being received from all parts of the United Kingdom.

A good many people seem to be under a misapprehension with regard to the real issue. They apparently think that the restriction applies only to chocolates, and they need to be reminded that the time of year is fast approaching when there will probably be a greater demand for ices than for chocolates. An argument put forward on behalf of the confectionery trade is that sweets can be purchased by persons before entering the theatres, but this, it is evident, cannot be made to apply to ices.

The obvious answer to the contention that it is not fair to permit the theatres to have the monopoly of selling chocolates after 8 o'clock is that there is nothing to prevent confectioners applying for a similar privilege if they desire it.

The report stage of the Shops (Early Closing) Bill will be taken on June 18, and such general support is being given to the campaign by M.P.s and others that there seems every probability that the Government will be prepared to give way in the matter of the sweets restrictions in theatres.

Effect on Charity Matinées.

The continuance of the sweetmeat theatres restrictions is likely to have a considerable effect on the holding of charity matinées, as a recommendation has been sent to managers of places of entertainment throughout the country to refuse to let their halls for any purpose whatever until the ban on the sale of chocolates after 8 o'clock is withdrawn.

Mr. Charles Gulliver has already declined to exhibit a propaganda film for the Ministry of Labour.

Mr. Tom B. Davis, president of the Theatrical Managers' Association, can see further trouble ahead.

"Contracts have been entered into extending over a period of years," he said, "which takes these rights into consideration. They are also reckoned on assessing the value of premises, and if the ban is not raised litigation will result.

"The whole positon is ridiculous. A man may buy whisky up to 10 o'clock, but may not purchase his wife a box of chocolates after 8."

MUNICIPAL HELP.

The General Purposes Committee of the Marylebone Borough Council reports that it has considered a communication, received by the mayor, from the London Theatres of Varieties, Ltd., upon the question of the restriction recently imposed on the sale of chocolates in theatres after 8 p.m. They point out that theatres and music halls and cinemas have always been ready and willing to assist in any local charity, and were instrumental in raising large sums during the war, in addition to organising entertainments for the wounded, and ask the mayor to assist them in securing the removal of this restriction.

The committee has decided to inform the organisation that it will be willing to recommend the Council to give assistance.

The Islington Borough Council has instructed the town clerk to write to the proper quarters protesting against the measure, and asking for the removal at once.

BLACKBURN MANAGER'S PROTEST.

Mr. J. R. Huddlestone, general manager of Blackpool Winter Gardens, has addressed a letter to the Home Secretary on the Shop Hours Early Closing Bill, as it affects the sale of chocolates in places of amusement. He says the purchase of chocolates, cigarettes, cigars, etc., has been a convenience enjoyed by the public as long as entertainments have existed, and is a business quite apart from, and not in opposition to, shops with all the day for their trade. Outside shops, he declares, are not affected, because persons in a place of amusement would not go outside for their purchases even if the shops were open. He understands the new Bill contains this clause: "No exemption conferred by this section shall operate so as to authorise the sale of chocolates or sweets after closing hours." In Mr. Huddlestone's view this clause will transfer business to the outside shopkeepers which they have never had before, and at the same time take away business rightly belonging to places of amusement.

THE OPPOSITION.
A TRADE CHALLENGE.

The London and South of England Confectioners' Protection Society is seeking the support of every manufacturer and wholesaler in the trade in the fight it is making against what is described as "the endeavour of the theatrical organisations to obtain preferential treatment."

In a statement to a Press representative Mr. F. W. Jenkins, the secretary of the Society, said: "The suggested amendment securing for the theatres the monopoly of selling chocolates and sweets after confectioners are closed is entirely unfair and unconstitutional. It is no hardship for theatre-goers to buy confectionery at the usual places at the usual hours, as people not visiting places of amusement have to do. If theatres are allowed to sell sweets at late hours, the same extension of time must be made to confectioners. This is only common fairness and elementary justice."

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO DATE.

Over a thousand pounds have already been subscribed by leading theatrical and music hall managers, and contributions are flowing in by every post.

Following is the first list of subscriptions:—

	£	s.	d.
Sir Oswald Stoll	100	0	0
Mr. Charles Gulliver	100	0	0
Mr. Gillespie (Moss' Empires)	100	0	0
Mr. George Dance	100	0	0
Mr. Tom B. Davis (Theatre Royal and Prince of Wales Theatre, Birmingham, £50 each)	100	0	0
W. and F. Melville	100	0	0
Sir Alfred Butt	73	10	0
Mr. John Hart	73	10	0
Frank Warr and Co.	50	0	0
F. Harrison	50	0	0
David Allen and Sons (per Sam Allen)	50	0	0
Syndicate Halls	26	5	0
Lt.-Col. Crosby, of Leeds	25	0	0
Mrs. Mouillot	21	0	0
Fred Warden, Belfast	10	10	0
Mrs. Dudley Bennett, Coventry	10	10	0
Entertainment Managers' Association	10	10	0
Peter Davey	10	10	0
Fred Fredericks	10	10	0
F. R. Little	10	10	0
Messrs. Wyndham	10	0	0
Percy Hutchison	10	0	0
W. Elliott, Islington	10	0	0
W. W. Kelly	10	0	0
R. H. Yeats, Ltd., Glasgow	10	0	0
Miss Horniman, Manchester	10	0	0
Gaiety Theatre, Hastings	5	5	0
F. G. Kimberley	5	5	0
Folkestone Pleasure Gardens	5	5	0
Messrs. King and Parry	3	3	0
W. H. Tate, Bognor	2	0	0

SUBURBAN THEATRES.

THE SURREY.

After their record-breaking run of opera of 106 performances, Messrs. Miln and Fairbairn are giving a season of Shakespeare's comedies as presented by the Ben Greet Players, and a large audience assembled on Monday to witness "The Taming of the Shrew." Mr. Ben Greet's acting as Gramio was a thing of sheer joy, his comedy work being beyond criticism, and the audience thoroughly enjoyed themselves whilst he was on the stage. As Petruchio, Mr. Rupert Harvey did exceptionally well. To Miss Beatrice Wilson fell the part of the viperish-tongued Katharina, and she proved thoroughly equal to its requirements. Another delightful performance was that of Mr. Orlando Barnett as Baptista, and good support was forthcoming from Frank Darch as Lucentio, Horace Sequeria as Gremio, and Mr. Francis Drake as Hortensio. Miss Viola Lyel as a Widow betrothed to Hortensio was charming; and an agreeable reading of Bianca was given by Miss Mary Sumner. The play was very carefully mounted.

WIMBLEDON THEATRE.

Miss Jessie Rose is presenting this week that old favourite, but ever delightful musical play, "The Geisha," and a large and friendly audience gave the production and the performers unstinted applause and approbation. Miss Rose herself appeared as O Mimosa San, and charmed everyone with her artistic singing and her rendering of the part. Miss Ida Cracknell scored an unmistakeable hit as Molley Seymour. Mr. Geoffrey E. Fisher as Reginald Fairfax gave full proof of his singing powers. Mr. Ralph Elgar caused much amusement as Wu. Hi, and Mr. C. Winter Coffin was all that could be desired as the Marquis Imari.

THE KENNINGTON.

"The Lilac Domino" attracted a large audience to the Kennington on Monday night. A strong company has been engaged to interpret Cuvillier's tuneful and original operetta. Amongst others, Miss Eva Lynn was conspicuous in the rôle of Georgine, and received valuable support from Mr. Robert Chisholm as Andre, the rendering of the duet in the second act by this couple being rewarded by four or five recalls. That clever comedian, Mr. Herbert Darnley, scores heavily as Prosper, and Ireland Cutler as Norman is distinctly good.

WINDSOR NEW THEATRE ROYAL.

"The Lads of the Village" is the attraction here, presented by the I.V.T.A. company. Mr. Harold Wellesley, who plays the part of Erb, V.C., is a comedian of resource and capacity, and he is ably supported by Mr. Bert Morley as Bert, his pal.

Stock at Merseyside.

Mr. W. W. Kelly has arranged with Mr. Alfred Denville to commence a summer stock season of drama at the New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead, on Monday next. Mr. Denville has organised a capital company and secured an excellent array of popular plays. The initial attraction will be "The Old Folks at Home."

This week, at the Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool, Mr. Kelly is offering, with great success, Miss Marie Blanche and Mr. E. Lewis Waller's company in the Drury Lane drama, "The Great Day."

A. E. Drinkwater and the Actor Manager.

The era which has succeeded to the actor-manager system was dealt with by Mr. A. E. Drinkwater in an address to the Repertory Theatre Playgoers' Society at Birmingham on Sunday night. He took the view that the form of management represented by Irving and George Alexander was rightly condemned, but it was better than a reign of purely commercial syndicates composed in most cases of men who did not pretend to any interest in or knowledge of the art of the theatre. He exhorted playgoers to look less to managers and more to themselves for improvement in the standard of plays. He laid great stress on the training of children in a taste for the higher drama.

Glasgow Repertory Season.

The Compton Comedy Company opened at the Royal Glasgow on Monday with "The School for Scandal," which was accorded an enthusiastic reception. Not since the days of the Repertory Theatre have Glasgow audiences had such a well-diversified selection of the classics, and there is every indication of a highly successful season. The first week's bill includes: Tuesday and Saturday (matinée), "Merchant of Venice"; Wednesday and Friday, "She Stoops to Conquer"; Thursday, "As You Like It"; Saturday, "Davy Garrick."

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION MATTERS.

SECRETARY'S NOTES.

Unguarded Condition of Theatres.

Owing to the enormous increase in thefts of artists' property in theatres, the Council is taking the strongest possible action in this matter. It would appear that many theatres are without door-keepers, and that there are either no locks on the dressing-room doors, or no keys provided. This matter has been discussed by the Joint Committee of the A.A., V.A.F., A.M.U., and N.A.T.E., who supported the point of view of the Association that where managers do not take adequate precautions, the strongest possible measures should be taken to hold them responsible for any loss. Mr. Lugg read correspondence and promoted discussion on this matter, at the last meeting of the Entertainments Industrial Council, and the committee endorsed the A.A.'s point of view that reasonable precautions must be taken by resident managers to ensure the safety of artists' property.

The Health Campaign.

At the request of the secretary, Mr. Chas. Palmer, M.P., our representative in the House of Commons, gave notice of the following questions which he will ask the Minister of Health:—

(a) Mr. Palmer to ask the Minister of Health how many cases of alleged insanitary theatres have been brought to his notice by the secretary of the Actors' Association.

(b) If, in the opinion of the Minister, the conditions are, if true, a menace to public health.

(c) In how many cases has the Minister of Health taken any action to investigate these complaints?

Since the secretary took up this matter in the public press, the Ministry of Health is paying more attention to our complaints, and it is pleasing to note that through their support of our action a Rural District Council has instructed their medical officer to see that certain work is done to the local hall. When the premises were inspected it was ascertained that the dressing-rooms were small, and that no lavatory accommodation was provided in the ladies' dressing-rooms. The owner was instructed to enlarge the dressing-rooms, provide extra lavatory accommodation inside, more light and ventilation, also coat the surface of the back yard, and floor the yard with tar macadam, and fix a gate at the side passage to prevent trespassing. He has also agreed to provide additional lavatory accommodation for the use of the public during performances.

Re Gaiety, Hastings.

It is very pleasing to receive the following report on the above theatre:—"All is comfortable as one could wish; the dressing-rooms are kept very clean and comfortable."

Meetings.

Open meeting for propaganda purposes on Friday, May 21, at the New Oxford Galleries, 77, New Oxford-street, at 3 p.m. prompt.

Meeting on Tuesday, May 25, at 3 p.m., by kind permission of the management, at the Prince of Wales' Theatre, Birmingham.

General meeting on the Standard Contract, Sunday, June 6, at St. Martin's Theatre, at 3.30. Doors open 3 p.m.

Beauty Competitions.

The Council of the A.A., in conjunction with the Joint Committee and the Entertainments Industrial Council, will take the strongest possible action to prevent any further competitions for the purpose of recruiting incompetents for the stage. Mr. Lugg is placing a resolution before the Entertainments Industrial Council at its next meeting, and the Council agrees that all such competitions are against the interests of the profession.

FRIDAY'S COUNCIL MEETING.

The weekly Council meeting was held on May 14. Present: Norman McKinnel (in the chair), J. Fisher White (vice-chairman), Miss Jessica Black, Frank Macrae, Frederick Harker, Mrs. Saba Raleigh, A. Harding Steerman, Clifford Rean, Miss Ethel Griffies, Miss Lisa Coleman, Luke Forster, Henry Oscar, Athole Stewart, Robert Michaelis, Miss Haidee Gunn, F. B. J. Sharp, J. Theodore Goddard (solicitor), and Alfred Lugg (secretary).

A vote of condolence was passed with the relatives of the late Mr. John Nesbit.

Licensing of Managers.

The chairman read the following resolution, to be submitted to the Trade Union Congress, re the licensing of managers:—"That this Congress strongly approves and recommends all affiliated unions to support the efforts of the Actors' Association to introduce legislation for the licensing of all persons who, for the purpose of private gain, employ any person to perform in any theatre, music hall, concert hall, circus, or other place of public amusement, or to take part as an actor or performer in the preparation of a film for the purpose of a cinematograph."

ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND.

SEVENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL FESTIVAL.

The 75th Annual Festival of the Royal General Theatrical Fund was held at the Savoy Hotel on Sunday evening. Mr. Oscar Asche presided, and among those present were Sir W. H. Goschen, K.B.E., Mr. Fred Terry (President of the Fund), Mr. Edmund Gwenn, Mr. Hubert Harben, Mr. Robert Loraine, Mr. Theo. Lumley, Mr. M. R. Morand, Mr. Charles Cruikshanks (secretary), the Baroness de Bush, Miss Marion Terry, Miss Mary Jerrold, and Miss Pauline de Bush.

Super-Beckett Chairman.

After the loyal toast had been duly honoured, Mr. Asche proposed the toast of "The Fund." They were a very small party, he said, but very select (Laughter.) When he was invited to take the chair he wondered why. He knew that many famous men had already been in the chair, and he thought, perhaps, it was due to the fact that Mr. Fred Terry was in the chair last year; he made a record collection, and the committee had looked around for someone as big or bigger physically than Mr. Terry to succeed him (laughter)—and the Association naturally begged him to take the chair. He was not of the super-Beckett class—(loud laughter) —but he could give his friend Terry a few pounds in weight—(laughter)—perhaps not in money. (Laughter.) He did not hope to fill the bill as well as Mr. Terry did last year. There was another motive in asking him to take the chair, and that was that for four years he had been accustomed to public speaking. He had lived in the seclusion of His Majesty's Theatre and only once or twice in the evening he had been able to open his mouth—(laughter)—and he thought that out of pity he was given the opportunity of saying something. (Loud laughter.) But after living in the seclusion of His Majesty's Theatre for many years, he came to the conclusion that a man must be narrow in his words—in his speech.

The Work of the Actor-Manager.

He was glad to follow in the footsteps of Mr. Fred Terry, because both of them were actor-managers—and there were very few of them left. (Hear, hear.) Neither Mr. Terry nor himself had been handled or mishandled by syndicates. They had many things in common, but not syndicates. (Laughter.) They had always tried to uphold the dignity of the English stage. Another matter in which they were in common was that they both appreciated the fact that they had wives who had in no small measure contributed to the success they had achieved. (Applause.) The actor-manager—and he was sure Mr. Terry would agree with him—had been the backbone of the English stage. Years ago it was the fashion to run down the actor-manager. The actor was one of the first to run him down, because he said: "Well, this actor-manager plays a part, whereas I should be playing it." Although it might be due to vanity or conceit, he thought it had been left to the actor-manager in England to put up classic drama and keep Shakespeare alive. (Hear, hear.) It had been left to the actor-manager to produce the plays of the greatest English dramatists. He could not point to anything that a syndicate had done for English art, or for the welfare of the actor. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Fred Terry went to a very hard school—that was, he had to fight his way up.

"I don't know whether he did as I did," continued Mr. Asche, "starved on the Embankment. But I do not starve now." (Laughter.) "I do not feel inclined, after a dinner like this, to go on the Embankment—(renewed laughter)—although I think it would do me a lot of good. The actor-manager, I think, should uphold the dignity of the stage, and do what he can for the actor. (Applause.)

The Actors' Improvidence.

"Actors and actresses do not look after themselves. They never insure. They look on the rosy side of things always. Fred and I are able to look after ourselves now —(laughter)—but there are others who have not been so fortunate, who have not enjoyed the opportunity of looking after themselves as we have, and it is to such a fund as we have come to-night to support that actors must look in their old days. (Applause.) To have to beg is in any way an unpleasant business. But as for many years the general public has begged of the theatrical profession, I feel it is not altogether out of turn for us in this society to beg from the general public to help artists who have in the past helped them." (Hear, hear.)

In any case, added Mr. Asche, for any charity the stage had been called upon to give a benefit performance, as a rule, only the heads—the stars—had got the "kudos" for it. Small people gave their services, and they got nothing for them. If there was a system by which every charity gave 25 per cent. of the proceeds to a fund like that they were there to further, there would be no necessity to ask the public for funds. (Applause.)

Dream of an Actor's Home.

It was always pleasing to know that when an actor or actress gave over acting he or she had something to live upon—some fund to which they might go if they thought fit. In America there was an old actors' home, in which actors—and actresses, for that matter—could claim adequate relief from their sufferings, not merely by asking for it. In Australia cottage homes were established, and it would be pleasing if in rich London cottages could be provided in which old actors and actresses could reside for the remainder of their days if necessary. This might to some appear a dream of his, but the day might come when such houses would be established. Such a scheme would be better than having £2 10s. a week and living from hand-to-mouth. (Applause.) The public had been generous to a fault, and had contributed largely to the Royal General Theatrical Fund. (Applause.) Every actor and actress ought to insure himself or herself in these days. But they were very optimistic always. They always looked on the rosy side of things—they might be riding a Rolls-Royce car to-morrow, and in a funeral car the next day. (Laughter.) Their life was a precarious one. The benefits of the Fund were great. (Hear, hear.) The public should realise the hard work an actor had to do to be a success, and they would have pity for him.

"After all," concluded Mr. Asche, "though sometimes actors play the part of dukes, they don't want to die as dukes. They want to live their lives in such a way as will enable them to avoid sleeping on the Embankment. Therefore, everybody should contribute what they can to the Fund." (Loud applause.) Mr. Asche coupled with the toast the name of Mr. M. R. Morand, the chairman of the Fund.

Fund's Wonderful Work.

In response, Mr. Morand said the Fund had been in existence 81 years, and it was not necessary for him to speak on what had been done during that period. Most wonderful work had been accomplished. (Hear, hear.) The Fund was started to help those who were inclined to help themselves. (Hear, hear.) He was reminded of a story told by an old actor at one of the banquets of the Actors' Benevolent Fund years ago. A young lady wrote to that excellent institution stating that she was the daughter of a clergyman with a large family and a small stipend, had to earn her own living, and had decided to enter their time-honoured and glorious profession. (Laughter.) She became acquainted with a manager. She accepted a position at £1 1s. a week (this was in pre-war days), and later wrote to the Actors' Benevolent Fund suggesting that the Fund should provide her with funds to keep her alive until she had completed her "calling."

That was an example, added Mr. Morand, of people helping themselves for eventualities. (Laughter.) The directors of the Fund wished the public to remember that the Royal Fund was a charity. It always was, and ever would be a charity, but it insisted that those who might seek its aid should themselves maintain the institution by contributions by way of quarterly subscription if they were able to contribute. Small as that gathering was, those present would be astonished the Fund had benefited by upwards of £900. (Loud applause.) In conclusion he thanked the members of the Fund and the public for what they had done for the benefit of the Fund. Their chairman and his good lady had been most generous. (Loud applause.)

Mr. Morand then proposed the toast of "The Chairman," a toast which, he said, had never been omitted for 81 years. The Fund was founded in 1839, and since then princesses of Royal blood, including King Edward, when Prince of Wales, and other notables, including Charles Dickens and Fred Terry, had occupied the chair at the annual gathering. He congratulated Mr. Oscar Asche upon following such worthy successors. (Applause.) The directors of the Fund appeal to the public for support. "If we get over £100,000," he added, "we will do what we can to give pensions of £50, £100, and £150 a year."

Mr. Charles Cruikshanks also spoke, and included the name of Miss Lilian Braithwaite.

Mr. Asche, in responding, said he was conscious of the honour which had been done to him in asking him to fill the chair which so many eminent men had filled. It was one of the proudest moments in his life. He only hoped that in future years he would be able to do as much for actors and actresses as others had done before him; actors and actresses had a sincere friend in him.

During the evening Miss Lillian Tooley and Mr. Edward Halland sang, Mr. Joseph Batten contributed a pianoforte solo, and Miss Helena Millais gave a recitation.—"Fragments From Life."

It was announced that the subscription list amounted to over £900.

FROM THE PROVINCES.

NOTES AND NEWS OF TOURING PLAYS.

ABERYSTWYTH.

COLISEUM.—R. M., Mr. Jenkin Humphreys.—Ella Field's all star company in repertoire of ballets, including Wensie Wilde, Connie Wilde, Prima Ballerina, and Cecile Maude-Cole, premiere danseuse. Boors, The Chemists, 1-4, The Arcade, Terrace-road.

BATH.

THEATRE ROYAL. — L. & M., Mr. Arthur Carlton, J.P.; R. M., Mr. Shelford Walsh; Mus. D., Mr. C. W. Hodges.—D'Oyly Carte's Opera Company, in "The Mikado," "Iolanthe," and "The Gondoliers."

PALACE.—D., Mr. W. S. Pearce.—Harry Burns presents the Welch-Conrad production, "Making Movies." Turns are also given by Rai Silvers, comedienne; Jaxon and Eddie, juggling duo; and Pearl Mitchell, violinist, assisted by her sister, in musical interlude.

Boors, The Chemists, 21-22, Union-street, 56, Southgate-street.

BELFAST.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—M. D., Mr. Fred W. Warden; A. M., Mr. James M. McCann; Mus. D., Mr. S. P. Swanton.—Messrs. Murray King and Charles Clark's company opened here on Monday with "The Yellow Ticket."

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. D. J. Clarke; R. M., Mr. George Dobler; Mus. D., Mr. J. Fowler.—The top of the bill here is occupied by Roxy La Rocca, the wizard of the harp. A feature of the bill is the musical tableaux, "Bedella O'Shea" and "Autumn Leaves," presented by Robert Reilly, assisted by Bedella and the Kid. The Kitchen Comedy Four return with their attractive act; and Will Bland, an American illusionist, appears with his magical maids in their mysterious act. Billy and Betty Byrne furnish proof of their ability as vocalists and dancers; and De Wynne Brothers stage their clever classical athletic act. Also billed are Hal Wright, burlesque comedian, and Enardo Brothers, comedy gymnasts.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—L., Mr. Barney Armstrong; G. M., Mr. Vincent Potter; R. M., Mr. E. J. Hart; Mus. D., Mr. J. Evans. —Mr. Charles Sheriff is the star here, and has made a big hit. Macdonald Watson and his Scottish players produce "The Prize Winner"; and The Three Walkers are aptly described as famous athletes. Budd and Clare stage their burlesque scena, "Scene at a Ball"; and Mr. Dan Leno, jun., is a first-class comedian and dancer. Wills and Warlock, in their original comedy act; The Teffie, harmonising duettists; and Miss Dorothy Osram, light comedienne, are also billed.

GAIETY.—G. M., Mr. Ernest B. Forbes; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Wright.—Vaudeville here by Tiny Arnol, popular vocalist; and The Four Maxwells, accomplished vocalists and dancers.

NEW ALHAMBRA.—G. M., Mr. W. Gibson Bradley; Mus. D., Mr. P. H. Boyle.—Appearing here are The Cymaces, acrobats and equilibrists; and Frank and Nana, exceedingly smart vocalists and dancers.

BLACKPOOL.

OPERA HOUSE.—R. M., Mr. Jno. R. Haddlestone; A. M., Mr. W. T. Russell; Mus. D., Mr. J. H. Greenhalgh.—Macdonald and Young's company is presenting "Sunshine of the World."

GRAND.—R. M., Mr. George Harrop; A. M., Mr. T. Hepcutt; Mus. D., Mr. T. Southworth.—"Daddy Long-Legs" is the attraction this week, presented by Gilbert Miller's company, including Beatrice St. Vincent and Owen Roughwood.

PALACE.—R. M., Mr. George Harrop; A. M., Mr. Fred Waller; Mus. D., Mr. Frank Jepson.—Will Evans and company are the outstanding people on this week's bill, which encompasses Henry J. Corner's Symphonia, Roes and Goodwin, George Hyam, Frank Maura, Lombard's Troupe, The Brooklands, &c.

Boors, The Chemists, 12-18, Market-street, Church-street, and Station-road.

BRIGHTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—M., Mr. Lawson Lambert; Mus. D., Mr. Sommerlad.—"Milestones," presented by Taylor Platt and Wilfred Eaton's company.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Chas. Gulliver; G. M. & L., Mr. W. H. Boardman; A. M., Mr. A. Coote-Suggett; Mus. D., Mr. Ernest Oram.—Vesta Tilley is making her farewell appearance here, and others on the bill include Ernie Mayne, the simple one; Ben Beyer and company, in original cycling novelty; Smarte Bros., clean original comedy; Jean Schwiller, 'cellist assisted by Julie Dolaro; and Hayman and Franklin, in a model sketch, "A Joy Ride."

GRAND THEATRE.—P., Mrs. Kimberley; G. M., Mr Frank Lister; Mus. D., Mr. Tom Parsons.—The musical burlesque, "The Red Heads."

PALACE PIER.—M., Mr. J. W. Cordiner; Mus. D., Mr. Pickard.—The Marchioness of Townshend's comedy, "The Fold," first time out of London, is drawing big audiences for the week.

WEST PIER.—M., Mr. Scholey; Mus. D., Mr. Crappa.—A good company is here with "The Girl from Ciro's."

Boors, The Chemists, 64, Church-road, Hove; 204, Church-road, Hove; 88, Preston-road; 17 and 18, James's-street; 19, London-road; 158-162, Western-road.

BRISTOL.

PRINCE'S THEATRE. — M. D., Mrs. Jas. Macready Chute and Mr. John Hart; R. M., Mr. J. Ellis Miller; A. M., Mr. Geo. M. Chute; Mus. D., Mr. Geo. R. Chapman.—"The Naughty Wife."

THEATRE ROYAL.—R. M., Mr. J. Windsor Stevenson. — F. G. Kimberley's play, "Ruined Lives."

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Sir Oswald Stoll; M., Mr. S. Fortescue-Harrison; A. M., Mr. Edwd. Fryer; Mus. D., Mr. Howard W. Galpin. — Captain Allan J. Roberts is giving demonstrations with his latest inventions in light and sound control. Other turns include Alec Kendal, a witty fellow; Arnold Richardson and Co. in "Desperado Dabbs"; Goodfellow and Gregson; Phil and Phiora; Zetta Mor; Scott Argyll; and Jerry and Co., the builders.

THE EMPIRE.—M., Mr. Sid Macaire; A. M., Mr. F. Reigo.—Delighting audiences here is a revue presented by Mr. Archie Pitt, "Mr. Towers of London," with a star cast, including Archie Pitt and Gracie Field. Also appearing are Fred Leigh, comedian; Doran Troupe of Cyclists; and the O'Shea Girls and Terry, in a novelty singing and dancing act.

BEDMINSTER HIPPODROME.—Sydney Swain presents his famous "Seven Wires," in a quick-fire whirlwind production. Also showing "Daddy Longlegs," featuring Mary Pickford, and other fine films. A fine selected string orchestra and grand orchestra pipe organ.

Boors, The Chemists, 9-10, Wine-street.

BURY.

ROYAL.—P., Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Otto C. Culling; R. M., Mr. Wm. Holland; M. D., Mr Harry Bridge.—The Bury Athenæum Amateur Operatic Society present "Tom Jones."

Boors, The Chemists, 5, Silver-st.

CAMBRIDGE.

NEW THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.; Asst. M., Mr. P. H. Adams; Mus. D., Mr. T. Gibby Bridges.—A. E. Malone presents "Tilly of Bloomsbury."

Boors, The Chemists, 31, Petty Cury; 6, Market-hill; 86, Mill-road.

CORK.

OPERA HOUSE.—M., Mr. Frank J. Pitt. —Messrs. Murray King and Clark present "Romance."

CROYDON.

GRAND.—L. and G. M., Mr. Cyril Royce; R. M., Mr. W. J. White; Mus. D., Mr. H. E. J. Nation.—Mr. Fred Terry and Miss Julia Neilson's company in "The Scarlet Pimpernel." Cast includes Miss Violet Fanebrother and Mr. Fred Terry.

EMPIRE PALACE.—M. D., Mr. Charles Gulliver; M., Mr. Eustace Jay; Mus. D., Mr. H. Chapman.—G. H. Elliott, Wilson Hallett, Darra De Moroda, Ethel Newman, The Omega Trio, Webb and Page, Olive Dene, Carina Trio, Vera and Russell Wray, Sid Cotterell and company, and pictures.

Boors, The Chemists, 38, George-st.; 42-44, North End.

DEVONPORT.

HIPPODROME.—M., Mr. E. H. Harper. —So great has been the success of Mr. Robert Courtneidge's latest production "Too Many Girls" that the management wisely exercised their option of retaining the company for another week.

DUBLIN.

GAIETY.—M., Mr. C. Hyland; Mus. D., Mr. W. S. Nabarro.—The Birmingham Repertory Theatre Company present the enormously successful play, "Abraham Lincoln," the acting all round reaching a high level of excellence.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—M., Mr. J. H. Hamilton; Mus. D., Mr. John Moody.—A well-balanced variety bill here is headed by Ike and Will Scott, the popular comedians, another featured turn being The Flemings in an acrobatic creation in alabaster; Mooney and Holbein present their latest successes; Fred Rex and Co., in a dramatic sketch, "Jimmy Josser, K.C."; Will Cummin and Partner; Marie Lawton and her harp; Olwen and Bessie Owen, Welsh duettists; and Dave Bryant, Hebrew comedian, complete.

QUEEN'S.—M., Mr. C. P. Wright; Mus. D., Mr. S. Lovenston.—Mr. Ira Allen and his all-Irish company present here "An Irishman's Honour."

ABBEY.—M., Mr. Lennox Robinson; Mus. D., Dr. J. F. Larchet.—Three interesting plays are drawing large audiences here, the productions being "In the Shadow of the Glen," "Hyacinth Halvey," and "A Minute's Wait."

EMPIRE.—L., Mr. B. Armstrong; M., Mr. A. Armstrong.—Walter McNally, the popular Irish baritone, supported by a strong company of artists, including Harry O'Dempsey, tenor; W. J. Lemass, baritone; Shaun O'Farrell, the Irish troubadour; Sydney Kelly, Irish dancer; Recco, comedy acrobat; Ted O'Kelly, vocalist; Mike Nono; Misses Lucy Leonane; Rosalind Downe, violinist; and Eileen Murraghan.

TIVOLI.—M., Mr. C. M. Jones; Mus. D., Mr. E. J. Taylor.—Topping the bill here is Oswald Bernard, the clever conjuror, and his pet pigeons. Supporting items include Chassino, the shadowgraphist; The Kinahan Kids, vocalists and dancers; Ellis Barriston, vocalist; Le Nisse, entertainer; Howard and Wyndham, vocalists and dancers; Tom White, comedian; and the Sisters Doreen, comediennes.

EASTBOURNE.

DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—L. and M., Messrs. Murray King and Clark; G. M., Mr. Douglas Gordon; A. M., Mr. George E. Godwin; Mus. D., Mr. F. Seymour.—Messrs. Macdonald and Young's company in "Peg o' My Heart."

PIER THEATRE.—M., Mr. H. Owen Taylor; Mus. D., Mr. R. W. Pelligen.—Messrs. W. Foster Horsfield and C. M. Green's company in "Hobson's Choice."

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Sidney W. Winter; M., Mr. H. Raymond; Mus. D., Mr. W. H. Ash.—Messrs. Tew and Bert's company in "Dodgs of D.O.R.A."

DEVONSHIRE PARK WINTER GARDEN.—M. and Sec., Mr. B. A. Brown.—Capt. H. G. Amers and his band every afternoon and evening, and Miss Lily Heenan, soprano. On Saturday evening, Mr. Tom Burke, tenor.

Boors, The Chemists, 14-16, Sussex-gardens, 6, Seaside.

EDINBURGH.

LYCEUM THEATRE. — M. D., Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; G. M., Mr. P. L. Howat; Mus. D., Mr. B. J. Rogers. — Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company is here with "The Man from Toronto."

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.; L., Messrs. Barney Armstrong, Ltd.; B. M., Mr. W. Scott Buccleuch; Mus. D., Mr. John P. Ross.—A capital variety programme is presented here. Miss Lottie Collins, junr., a graceful comedienne, wins her way to the favour of the audiences; the Seven Brasmuss submit their clever musical sketch, "Music Afloat"; the Merry Four are highly entertaining in their musical and dancing turn; Miss Edna Lyall sings with much sweetness; and further diversity is imparted to the bill by Hall and Neil, comedians; Jack Cosgrove and Ethel Burns; Ralphie Brooks, Scottish comedian; Morris and Bella; and W. P. Dempsey, in old and new sketches.

KING'S THEATRE. — P., King's Theatre Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. A. Stewart Cruikshank; G. M., Mr. J. Stanley Cave; Mus. D., Mr. A. Douglas Willcox.—Mr. Chas. B. Cochran's company is drawing good houses here with "The Better 'Ole," in which Mr. Martin Adeson repeats his successful performance of Old Bill.

GARRICK THEATRE.—L., Edinburgh Varieties, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Tom Bolan.—An excellent programme this week includes Mr. Fred Rayner with "Farm Frolics," in which he is ably supported by Miss Rena Lipton and the Four Lilacs. Other interesting turns comprise Matroppo, baritone vocalist; D. C. Mond, musician; the Signal Sextette; and the Novagels, cutting experts in shadowgraphy.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. R. H. Gillespie; M., Mr. Leonard Dalrymple; Mus. D., Mr. James Howarth. —Mr. Albert De Courville's successful entertainment, "Rat-Tat-Tat," monopolises this week's bill.

Boors, The Chemists, 102, Princes-street.

GRIMSBY.

PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE.—M. D., Councillor J. H. Curry; A. M., Mr. S. Handon; Mus. D., Mr. J. Bingley.—This week a company of local amateurs are appearing in "Ready Money," and the proceeds are to go to the funds of the hospital. Councillor Ernest Harrison acts as producer, and plays the principal part.

PALACE THEATRE.—M., Councillor F. V. Walford; A. M., Mr. H. S. Surfleet; Mus. D., Mr. T. Stevens.—A new musical production, "Nothing Doing," is attracting good houses here.

Boors, The Chemists, 103, Cleethorpe-road.

HALIFAX.

THEATRE ROYAL. — P., Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Wm. Robinson; Mus. D., Mr. Edwin James.—Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company is again here in "The Arcadians," which is proving as popular as ever.

GRAND. — P., Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; A. M., Mr. J. Hinton; Mus. D., Mr. C. Crabtree.—Messrs. F. G. Kimberley and Dennis Clyde are presenting "The White Slave's Wedding."

PALACE THEATRE.—P., The Palace Theatre (Halifax), Ltd.; M., Mr. W. Jackson; Mus. D., Mr. W. Davidson.—Miss Irma Lorraine once more provides a sensational attraction. Another big attraction is J. P. Linq, the versatile entertainer, while the Three Sisters Macarte, Pell Stacey, and Belle Tinney, the lightning terminators; Brothers Curran, boxing comedians; Orente, saxophonist; and Arthur Lagran and Kitty McShane, in comedy scene, complete a good bill.

Boors, The Chemists, 1, Cornmarket.

IPSWICH.

LYCEUM.—P., Ipswich Lyceum, Ltd.; L., Mr. E. H. Bostock; M., Miss Edith Parkyn; Mus. D., Mr. H. Lewin Taylor.—R. Lewis Waller's Tours, Ltd., company in "Sacred and Profane Love."

HIPPODROME.—P., Mr. E. H. Bostock; M., Mr. R. Hendry; Mus. D., Mr. T. Stockham.—Comedy revue, "Nights of Gladness."

Boors, The Chemists, 22, Tavern-street; 52, Westgate-st.

KENDAL.

ST. GEORGE'S THEATRE.—P., Mr. R. F. Chorley; R. M., Mr. J. W. Butler; Mus. D., Mr. T. B. Jackson.—Roselle and Clifford, operatic duo; and pictures.

LEITH.

ALHAMBRA.—M. D., Mr. Henry Lees; R. M., Mr. James Cousins; Mus. D., Mr. Joseph Smith.—The armless wonder, Elroy, is at the head of a good holiday bill; Wee Terry, the boy with an unusual voice, uses it with unusual skill; Arthur Haynes introduces an interesting boxing medley; Gyp and George present a lively comedy act; the Renos score happily in a vocal scena; Foster Kershaw entertains very pleasantly without a piano; and a smart eccentric turn is provided by the Ketos.

Boors, The Chemists, 15, Leith-walk.

LIVERPOOL.

ROYAL COURT. — M. D., Mr. F. W. Wyndham; A. M., Mr. Arthur Lawrence; Mus. D., Mr. Julien H. Wilson.—A return visit is being made of "Charley's Aunt," with Mrs. Brandon Thomas's company.

SHAKESPEARE.—L. & M., Mr. W. W. Kelly; A. M., Mr. Herbert M. King; Mus. D., Mr. Bertram Srawley.—The enterprising Mr. Kelly is giving Liverpool a first glimpse at "The Great Day," which, on Monday evening, afforded keen enjoyment to a large and highly pleased audience. The splendid setting of the drama was a feature. The company, which was a particularly strong one, included Miss Marie Blanche and Mr. R. Lewis Waller.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; L. & M., Mr. George Manners; Mus. D., Mr. A. Workman.—Here we are having a return visit of Harry Day's new musical revue, "Up the Wing," in which George Clarke and Isabelle Dillon are prominent.

OLYMPIA. — P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. James R. Buchanan; Mus. D., Mr. Albert Moore.—A strong bill is headed by Hetty King, who receives cordial attention from her innumerable admirers. Another favourite is Mike S. Whallen; the Edgar-Hudson Quintet are as much appreciated as ever; and the clever child artist, Kid Kennedy, proves very interesting. Others in the list are Kuming and Windsor, the Sutcliffe Family, and Hill and Ackerman, comedians.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Chas. Gulliver; M. & L., Mr. E. W. James; Mus. D., Mr. Frank Stokes.—Prominent is the Great Carmo, with his admirable illusions, which cause endless wonder; George Wilbey proves as richly entertaining as ever; May Henderson's refreshing turn is still keenly appreciated; and Jean Marvin and Thomas Rhyde present a stirring sketch, "The Sheriff of Lonesome Pine." Contributions also come from Teddy Stream, eccentric character comedian; and Les Videos, cyclists.

ROTUNDA.—M., Mr. M. Montgomery; A. M., Mr. Fred Coles; Mus. D., Mr. George Dibbert.—Here Miss Madge Gray and company are presenting an amusing musical play, entitled "Our Kid," which finds much favour. Miss Gray holds the title-part.

PAVILION.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; R. M., Mr. Edward M. Hamilton; Mgr. D., Mr. Harry Walker.—An attractive programme contains the names of the Lucy Nuttall Trio of musicians and vocalists; Tom Gott, Yorkshire comedian; George Calver, vocalist; Lillie Langtry, comedienne; Guilly and Jeanny, with a "novelty on a pedestal"; Alf. Thomas, comedian; Alfred Leonard, violinist, assisted by Adeline Valery, dancer; and the Four Julieas, aerial comedians.

LYRIC.—L., Liverpool Lyric Theatre Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Henry C. Arnold; Mus. D., Mr. Cleaver Howard.—The variety programme here comprises Loch and Lomond, comedy couple; Sylvia, with musical glasses; the Mestrys, with speciality; Darty and Partner, in a comedy humpati-bumpati act; George Prince, comedian; Syd. Sydney, entertainer; the Holdens, comedy couple; and Walter Kemp and Co., in a Scottish sketch, "Peter."

Boors, The Chemists, Boots' Corner, Church-street; 11-13, London-road; 1, Leece-street; 203, Scotland-road; 8, West Derby-road; 235, Park-road; 113, Lodge-lane; 79, Wavertree-road; Prudential Buildings, Dale-street; 45 to 47, Lord-street.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

ROYAL.—M. D., Mr. F. W. Hawkins.—An excellent cast, headed by Wilfred Gamble, present a musical extravaganza, entitled "Love and Sport."

Boors, The Chemists, 10, Market-place.

MARGATE.

HIPPODROME.—P., South of England Hippodromes, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Charles Gulliver; R. M., Mr. Jack Binns; Asst. M., Mr. Sidney Adams.—Alfred B. Kennedy and Henry Adnes present "Potash and Perlmutter."

MIDDLESBROUGH.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—L., Mr. J. C. Imeson; Asst. M., Miss M. Morton; Mus. D., Mr. Albert Childzey.—Messrs. Robert Courtneidge and Mollison Kidd's excellent company are presenting the charming comedy, "Daddies."

HIPPODROME.—L. & P., Mr. Thos. Thompson; A. M., Mr. W. S. Gibson; R. M., Mr. Frank R. Parker; Mus. D., Mr. H. J. Waldron.—The special attraction is provided by Napoli, in some clever sagtime violin playing. Pictures complete the bill.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & P., Mr. J. C. Imeson; A. M., Mr. Cecil Imeson.—The Arthur Hinton Repertoire Company are presenting an interesting programme of plays, viz., "The Broken Doll," "Allah's Orchard," "Betrayed," and "East Lynne."

EMPIRE.—P., Empire Palace of Varieties (Middlesbrough), Ltd.; M. D., Mr. William Bastiman; A. M., Mr. Gerald Spencer; Mus. D., Mr. Arthur Wilson.—The leading features of this week's bill are provided by Wee Georgie Wood, supported by Dolly Harmer, in the smart sketch, "Thicker than Water." Other capital items are given by the Bell Boys and Ringham, the singing trio; Tom Bracewell, eccentric; Leah Victoria, the jolly Dutch girl; Rubani Trio, in songs and dances; Caprice Proud, comedienne; and Edgar Charles, character comedian.

Boors, The Chemists, 17, Corporation-road.

NORTHAMPTON.

NEW THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. Walter T. Simmons; M. & Sec., Mr. Percy H. Gallagher; Mus. D., Mr. Lawrie Owen.—Albert Vivian Peake and company, in an artistic musical scena, entitled "One Fleeting Hour"; the Saldos, the De Dions, Claude Lester, &c.

Boors, The Chemists, 6, Gold-st.

NORWICH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Messrs. Bostock and Fitt; M., Mr. Hy. Furnivall.—"The Naughty Wife."

HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. Bostock and Fitt.—Varieties: Mary Mayfrey and company; Dorowami, Frank Powell, Stanley B. Lloyd, Kenna Bros., Leo Bliss, Jennion's Manakins, Pathé's pictures.

ELECTRIC CINEMA THEATRE.—P., F. R. Cooper & Co.; M., Mr. Will Smith. —Harry Blake, Miss Molly West.

THATCHED PICTURE THEATRE.—P., Mr. J. O. Bond.—The Great Morritt, SPRING GARDENS PAVILION.—P., Mr. Horace Rose.—Ye Olde Royalists.

Boors, The Chemists, 33, London-st., Brigg-st.; 5, Goat-lane.

NOTTINGHAM.

ROYAL.—P., Robert Arthur Theatres, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. F. W. Wyndham; R. M., Mr. Harry Lyons; Mus. D., Mr. John Armstrong.—"La Poupee" found an appreciative house on Monday. Miss Stella Gachelle made an engaging representative of Alesia; Lancelot and Chanteville were played with breezy buoyancy by Mr. Thomas Edgar and Mr. C. Rivers Gadsby respectively; and Mr. C. Rivers Gadsby also vocalised the part of Father Maxime with considerable fervour. The whimsicalities of Hilarius had a clever and droll exponent in Mr. Harry C. Parker, and Mme. Hilarius was made highly entertaining by Miss Rita Trekelle.

GRAND.—P., Nottingham Grand Theatre and Estates, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Frederick Monckton; Mus. D., Mr. G. Robinson.—The naval drama, "For Sweethearts and Wives," is capitally presented by the company of Messrs. Arthur Rosebury and Gerald F. Buckle. Miss Hettie Gale displays much versatility as Trixie, and the role of Frank Manley is made interesting and popular by Mr. Norman Leyland. Convincing studies are also given by Miss Peggy Caird, Miss Polly Marsh, Mr. Jack Croft, and Mr. Edgar Mitton.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. R. H. Gillespie; A. M., Mr Arthur H. Williams; Mus. D., Mr. Charles Wyndham.—The production of Albert De Courville's revue, "Same to You," is replete with all the necessary elaborate staging, lilting music, and diverting fun, for the latter of which the inimitable Fred Kitchen is responsible.

HIPPODROME.—P., Nottingham Hippodrome, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. F. Dudman Bromwich; Mus. D., Mr. Horace Watson.—Marie Dainton's imitations win the warmest of approbation. The Ilott Quartette contribute a melodious act. Attractive dancing items are given by John and Bertha Gleeson and Fred Houlihan; and other turns are provided by Barney Lando, Doc Campbell, The Zestos, jugglers, Sinclair's Diamonds, and Frank E. Franks.

Boors, The Chemists, 22, Goose Gate, Trent Bridge; 46, Arkwright-st.; 177-79, Alfreton-rd.; 126-8, Derby-rd.; 88, St. Ann's Well-rd.; High-st. and Pelham-st., Exchange-walk; 21, London-rd.; 181, Mansfield-rd.; 10, Lister Gate; 1, Angel-rd., Market-place; 1, Mansfield-rd. (corner Shakespeare-st.); 269, St. Ann's Well-rd., Carrington-st. Bridge; 66, Wilford-rd.

OLDHAM.

GRAND.—P., Oldham Empire Theatre of Varieties Co.; G. M., Mr. E. Dottridge; A. M., Mr. H. Kilrow.—The Wylie-Tate production of "Three Wise Fools."

PALACE.—P., Oldham Empire Theatre of Varieties Co.; G. M., Mr. E. Dottridge; A. M., Mr. E. Sharrocks.—Jack Pleasants, the shy one; Edna Maude, dansense; the Four Shades, vocal quartette; V. M. Gaston, xylophonist; the Three Morellys, Dutch gymnasts; Wynnie Darrell, vocalist and dancer; the Mervyn Sisters, in a singing, dancing, and acrobatic speciality; and pictures.

ROYAL.—P., Oldham Empire Theatre of Varieties Co.; G. M., Mr. E. Dottridge; A. M., Mr. H. Harris.—Alfred Denville's stock company present "Coming Home."

Boors, The Chemists, 40-42, Mumps; 28, Market-place.

OXFORD.

NEW THEATRE.—P., Oxford Theatre Co., Ltd.; M. & Sec., Mr. S. C. Dorrill; Asst. M., Mr. W. P. Smith; Mus. D., Mr. C. F. Trevor.—Mr. Louis Calvert is paying a personal visit here with his company, and is presenting "Daddalums" (Mon., Wed., Thurs. and Sat.), and Bernard Shaw's comedy, "You Never Can Tell" (Tues. and Friday). In the latter play Mr. Calvert is playing his original part, the Waiter. Included in the cast are also Edyth Olive, Edward Bonfield, Francis Lister, W. Edward Stirling, Constance Newell, and Ernest Hendrie.

Boors, The Chemists, 1, Queen-street, and 120, St. Aldates, Carfax.

PORT TALBOT.

NEW.—Joint L., Messrs. John Evans and Vivian Aldridge; G. M., Mr. Vivian Aldridge; M., Mrs. Vivian Aldridge.—Leon Vini presents "Three Weeks."

READING.

COUNTY.—P. and M., Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton.—J. H. Shaw presents "Baby Bunting."

REDDITCH.

PALACE.—R. M., Mr. William Howgate; Mus. D., Mr. F. A. Head.—Mr. Eric Francis and company present "Bought and Paid For."

Boors, The Chemists, 3, Evesham-street.

SALFORD.

PALACE (LATE REGENT THEATRE). —P., The Salford Palace, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Alan Young; G. M., Mr. A. S. Evanson; Asst. M., Mr. Horace Cocks.—Wylie-Tate production, "Keyhole Kameos," also turns by Kate Hughes, Ellice and Dee, The Whittakers, The Mountfords.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. Wm. Hy. Broadhead and Son; R. A. M., Mr. Fred. Bernardo.—H. Pelton presents "I'm Surprised."

SCARBOROUGH.

OPERA HOUSE.—M. D., Mr. William Peacock; M., Mr. G. Hawkins.—William Hollis and Norman J. Norman present "Little Women," Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday; Gilbert Miller presents "Nothing But the Truth," Thursday, Friday, and Saturday.

Boors, The Chemists, 1, St. Nicholas-street, 18, Newborough.

STOCKPORT.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Sole Owner and M., Mr. Charles Revill; A. M., Mr. Cyril D. Revill; B. M. & S., Mr. John Revill.—Hazel Glade's production, the musical comedy revue, "Hooray, We're Here."

HIPPODROME. — L., Mr. William Swire; G. M., Mr. Harry Barker.—Haley's Komets, in their garden revuette; Alf. Hawthorn, equilibrist; Austin Sisters, in musical and acrobatic act; the Melody Trio, harmonisers; Daisy Griff, comedienne; Selig and Hart, comedians; and Hunter and Bob, in pantomimical comedy act.

Boors, The Chemists, 26, Bridge-street Brow.

TORQUAY.

ROYAL.—L. and M. D., M

THE REALM OF MUSIC.

THE MUSICAL DIRECTOR.

ORCHESTRAL NOTES AND NEWS.

IN THE CONDUCTOR'S CHAIR.

Mme. Tussaud's Musical Director.

Jacques Taubé was born in Russia and is a naturalised English subject. He studied under Dr. Jos. Joachim for six years and acted as leader in the Philharmonic orchestra at Berlin under Arthur Nikish for five years. From 1898 to 1904 he was a member of the Queen's Hall orchestra under Sir Henry J. Wood, and from 1905 to 1915 with the London Symphony Orchestra under Hans Richter, Arthur Nikish, Sir Edward Elgar, Fr. Steinbach, Landon Ronald, &c. For three years Jacques Taubé was engaged as musical director and solo violinist with a band of 35 performers at Leamington, where he achieved great success, and further, his services were frequently requested by the late American Ambassador, Mr. Reid, for his social functions at Chester House. For many years Jacques Taubé has controlled the musical arrangements at our world-famous waxwork exhibition, and the excellence of his orchestras is greatly appreciated.

ORGANIST MUSICAL DIRECTOR.

Herbert Steele, the popular organist of the Palladium, Southport, first saw the light of day in the village of Bolton-by-Bowland, Yorkshire, and received his first instructions in the elements of music from his father, who was a noted teacher and musician in the county. Like many other well-known personages in the musical world, he spent his boyhood years as a chorister at the church of St. Lawrence, Morecambe. He was successful in gaining all the important first prizes at the various musical festivals and competitions in the North.

At an early age Steele studied for piano and organ, and when fifteen was appointed organist at Heysham parish church. Two years later he transferred to St. Barnabas', Morecambe, and in addition was elected as accompanist of the town's Madrigal Society, the premier choral society of the district. His next engagement was as pianist and accompanist at the Morecambe Central Pier Concerts, which post he held for three seasons. He then fulfilled the position of musical director at the Alhambra, Morecambe; Opera House, Stockport; and Hippodrome, Bolton.

He commenced his present duties in the year 1916, and has given recitals daily on an orchestrelle two-manual instrument to thousands of admirers. He is proud in the possession of scores of flattering references from leading artists. Several of Herbert Steele's orchestral and song compositions have been published by London houses.

A Popular Musical Director.

The accompanying cartoon will be easily recognised as a caricature of Mr. Forbes Russell, the musical director of the Wood Green Empire. It is drawn by the well-known caricaturist, Van Dock, and decor-

ated the pages of a pamphlet, giving particulars of forthcoming attractions issued weekly by the management of the popular North London house.

A Choral-Orchestral Society.

Mr. Hugh Marleyn, prominent as singer and teacher, and esteemed as a song composer, appeared in yet another rôle on Tuesday night at Queen's Hall, as conductor of the newly-formed Langham Choral-Orchestral Society, a body recruited from the London Telephone Exchanges Staff. In the work chosen for their first public appearance the choir sang with splendid fire and energy, and with excellent tone. Altogether the performance was of a quality on which Mr. Marleyn and his forces may be congratulated, and one that gives occasion for hoping great things of the Society in the future.

British Composers' Rehearsals.

The next orchestral rehearsal of works by British composers at the Royal College of Music will take place on Tuesday morning, June 1, 1920. The London Symphony Orchestra will be conducted by the composers and Mr. Adrian C. Boult. Members of the public interested in orchestral music by British composers are cordially invited to attend.

The Broadstairs Band.

Messrs. Ashton and Mitchell's All-British Orchestral Band, under the direction of Captain Waterhouse and the conductorship of Mr. T. Priddy, commence their engagement for the season on Saturday afternoon next at the bandstand.

CONCERT ARTISTS' BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION.

The annual general meeting of the Association was held on Sunday evening at St. George's Hall, Langham-place. Mr. Sparks, the hon. solicitor, presided.

The Committee, in presenting their annual report and accounts for the year ended the 31st ult., congratulated the members on the result of the year's working.

Ten "At Homes" were held, as against six last season, and the attendance at these was very satisfactory. The benevolent collections were extremely good, amounting to no less than £234 15s. 2d., this result being largely due to the convincing appeals made by Miss Pattie O'Hanlon and Mrs. Eustace Miles, Messrs. Nevil Maskelyne, Bransby Williams, John Q. Rowett, Sivori A. J. Levey, Philip Franklin, Jeffrey Bernard, John Humphreys, Lorne Wallet, Robert Ganthony, and Arthur Helmore, who occupied the chair at the respective meetings, and to all of whom our cordial thanks are due. The Benevolent Fund has been well maintained, the balance carried forward being £2,430 13s. 1d., as against £2,262 0s. 11d. the previous year. The Committee regret we have to report the death of Mr. Arthur Thomas, a fine artist and one of the original members of the Association, whose loss will be keenly felt. The thanks of the Association are due to John Q. Rowett, Esq., who generously gave a donation of £86 15s., divided between the Benevolent Fund and the General Fund, on the occasion of his occupying the chair. Owing to the big increase in rental, the Committee were reluctantly compelled to change the venue of the "At Homes" from the Criterion to St. George's Hall, which was very kindly placed at the disposal of the Association by Mr. Nevil Maskelyne at a reasonable rental.

The financial statement showed that there was a balance in hand of £246 7s. 4d.

The report and statement of accounts were adopted, and the meeting proceeded to elect the officers and committee for the ensuing year. Mr. George Ashton was elected president, and Mr. Tom Clare and Mr. Bruce Smith were re-elected vice-presidents; Mr. Harry Croxleigh, hon. treasurer; and Mr. Julius E. Day hon. secretary.

Mr. Day submitted a brief statement, in which reference was made to the success which had resulted from the publicity campaign. He also stated that a larger income was required to meet expenses. Over 300 new members had been enrolled during the year, and there was no reason why the scope, influence, and membership of the Club should not be very much increased.

The following were elected members of the committee:—Messrs. S. Warwick, H. Bridon, C. Norton, A. Adair, J. Humphreys, C. Connell, A. E. Nickoldas, A. Thomas, H. Townsend, D. Beveridge, A. Stevens, E. Williams, P. R. Barkshire, S. Lockyan, and S. A. J. Levey.

A lady member expressed her regret that although two ladies were candidates, neither had been elected.

The Chairman said that the Committee having been elected, nothing could be done to alter its constitution this year.

MARK HAMBOURG'S COLISEUM CONCERT.

Mr. Mark Hambourg's concert at the Coliseum on Sunday afternoon in aid of the London Fever Hospital, attracted a large audience, the eminent pianist announcing at the end of the performance that the proceeds were over £1,113, and that there was still "more to come." He referred to the valuable work of the children's committee, two of whom, aged 11 and 3 respectively, accompanied him on the stage, a tiny toddler being carried in by Mr. Arthur Croxton. Mr. Hambourg also returned thanks to Sir Oswald Stoll and the artists, the Coliseum staff, and all who had contributed to the success of the concert.

The programme was an especially interesting and varied one. Miss Mary Anderson, making one of her rare appearances on the stage, was given a very hearty welcome, and delighted all with her reading from the sheep-shearing scene from "A Winter's Tale"; the finely-delivered recitations of Miss Irene Vanbrugh ("He Fell Among Thieves," by Henry Newbold), and Mr. Dion Boucicault (a powerful piece by Robert Louis Stevenson), were heartily applauded; two old English songs were delightfully rendered by Miss Ada Forrest, and Mr. Ben Davies sang "To Mary" and "Maire My Girl," in response to an insistent demand for encore giving "Songs of Araby."

Miss Lilian Braithwaite and Mr. Dawson Milward appeared in the latter's amusing duologue, "Jealousy"; Tom Clare greatly amused the audience with his two songs at the piano, "In the Glorious Days to Come" and "Disappointed Man"; and genial Lyell Johnson gave some funny stories and one or two capitally rendered songs. Felix Salmond's 'cello playing, and Mdme's violin solo, were two of the artistic treats of the afternoon. Mr. Hambourg, in addition to a Bach fugue, accompanied, at the piano, Miss Phyllis Bedells in a delightful dance, which was encored; M. Novikoff's dance was heartily applauded, as also was Mr. Murray Davey's singing of a selection from Mozart's "Don Giovanni." George Robey, in dip-top form, sang "No, No, No" with the usual hilarious result, the famous comedian also telling the "story of his life" in a mock-serious fashion that created the heartiest laughter, and an act that was also responsible for much merriment was that given by Noni, the clever and original Anglo-French clown, assisted by Horace. The work of the fine London Coliseum orchestra, conducted by Mr. Alfred Dove, contributed considerably to the enjoyment of the afternoon.

COMPOSER-PIANIST'S CONCERT.

Mr. Leo Livens, who is giving another pianoforte recital at the Æolian Hall to-day, was born at Beckenham in 1896, and has already made a name both as a composer and as a pianist. In the former capacity he will be represented on this occasion by his early piano sonata and by his more recent "Impressions," such as "Heatwave," "Bells," "Hallelujah," and a piece called "Grotesque."

CONCERT PARTIES AT WORK.

The Brite-'Uns.

The Brite-'Uns, under the conductorship of Mr. Sydney Grey, are again at the Eastern Esplanade Bandstand at Southend-on-Sea. Last year, with their bright and clever performances, they became general favourites, and they are quite up to that standard. The company includes Miss Violet Coombes, Miss Bertha Desmond, Miss Cissie Graham, Miss Ada Vernon, Mr. Frank Courlette, Mr. James Hartley, and Mr. Arthur Lennard.

Hastings.

This is the last week of those highly popular entertainers, the Poppies. Special programmes are being given each evening. Next week the Golden Vanities open here.

The Harmony Concert Party, under the direction of Roy Lorraine and Felicia Firmin, and presented by the Tudor Entertainment Co., opened their alfresco season at Caroline Place Enclosure on Monday. This company play in the Alexandra Park in the afternoons, and the evening shows are given here.

Mr. Wallis Arthur's company, under the direction of Mr. Geo. Blackmore, are billed to open their season at the Central Pavilion on Saturday evening.

The Gems.

Mr. Sidney Cooper's Gems are appearing at the Spalding Exchange Theatre this week. They include Miss Betty Jumel, Miss Vie Vivienne, Miss Gladys Morgan (Welsh soprano), Miss Jessie Melvin (Scotch vocalist and dancer), Mr. Paul Courtney, Mr. Harold Jumel, and Mr. Lew Hedges.

Seven Cadets.

Harry Leslie's Seven Cadets opened the concert party season at His Majesty's Theatre, Barrow-in-Furness, last week. Crowded houses and frequent encores testified to the popularity of this combination.

Rhapsodies.

At the Coronation Hall, Ulverston, last week, Dorothy Wills' Rhapsodies delighted large audiences, both individual and concerted items being accorded an enthusiastic reception.

"Mischief."

In the Opera House, New Spa, Bridlington, Vaudeville Enterprise are presenting "Mischief," a new phantasy, by Douglas Faber. The company is under the direction of E. Mason Wood, and includes Misses Elsie Ingle, soprano; Aimée Floretta, dancer; Norah Dolan, soubrette; Messrs. Edward Sydney, humorist; E. Mason Wood, baritone; Herbert Munden, comedian; and Jack Granville, at the piano.

Bridlington's Whitsun Attractions.

Mr. Charles Palmer, the popular manager of the Royal Prince's Parade and the New Spa at Bridlington, that charming pleasure resort on the coast of Yorkshire, has made great preparations to entertain the thousands who will visit the town at Whitsuntide. The two orchestras which have been performing daily since Easter, under the batons of Enrico Scoma and Mr. Gershom Parkington, are greatly augmented, and a succession of vocalists are also engaged. An opera company at the Spa and pictures in the Grand Pavilion and the Victoria Hall are also amongst the other attractions to be provided by Mr. Palmer.

Up-the-River Concert Parties.

The Sun Concert Pavilion at Kingston, a very popular summer evening resort, is opening for the season on May 22 with the Versatile Concert Party, under the title of "Revelry," from the Aldwych Theatre.

The Summits are opening the season at the Surbiton Assembly Rooms on Whit-Monday, when they are giving a first-class programme.

Ye Olde Royalists.

Last week's attraction at the Paddock Gardens, Guildford, was provided by Ye Olde Royalists, a combination of seven versatile artists who offer a vaudeville programme of exceptional merit. There is comedy in plenty, the "culprits" being Fred Beck and Harry Rowland, comedians both. Excellent vocalism comes from John Lunn, a powerful baritone, and Dora Hodgson, the possessor of a sweet soprano voice, and "goey stuff" is offered by precocious Dorrie Dene, and some excellent terpsichorean efforts by Dora Hodgson. Connie Hilliard most ably presides at the piano.

The Topics.

The Palladium, Pier Hill, Southend-on-Sea, opened for the season last week, Mr. Wallace R. Hunt is again the lessee, and intends having a change of company each week. For this week The Topics, presented by Mr. Malcolm Scott, and produced by Mr. Lister Reekie, have been engaged. The contributors to the programme include:—Lister Reekie, comedian; Elsie Murray, soprano; Lionel Vawn, comedian; Jennie Tate, soubrette; A. Scott Banner, in dance and patter; Billy Barclay, entertainer; Sidney Bently, pianist.

Carnival.

Mr. Charles Percival's "Carnival" Company of vaudeville artists were at the Assembly Rooms, Stamford, last week. They include Misses Carrie Williams, Constance Joy, Bettie Bell, and Virginia Davies, Messrs. Alec Young, Ronald Evans, and Edgar Wayne, all capable vocalists and fun-makers.

Pelicans.

The visit of the Pelicans concert party to the Lees Pavilion, Folkestone, last week, proved a good attraction. This repertoire is of the best, and the artists have gained considerable approval at each performance. The company includes Fred Merry, Harry Ransome, Bert Rawland, Mr. Griffiths Moss, Leslie Walsh, and Misses Mercia Penny, Margaret Wilson, and Lily Gerard.

The Bondonas.

Keith Prowse and Co., Ltd., will present in July a costume concert party entitled the Bondonas, under the direction of Fred Frampton. The party will include Madeline Allen, soprano; Arthur Jay, baritone; May Phillips, comedienne; Dora Raismond, soubrette, and Frank Barham, light comedian.

SUNDAY SMOKING CONCERT.

Miss Mavis Yorke, who first won the favour of audiences as a child dancer, and is now almost grown up, took part in the entertainment given by the Sunday Smoking Concert Society at the Æolian Hall, New Bond-street, on Sunday evening last. In her first dance, "The Swan" (Saint-Saëns), she delighted the large audience by her grace of movement and perfection of technique, the general effect being exceedingly charming. On her second appearance Miss Yorke gave a further demonstration of her skill as a dancer who may be classed in the first rank of her profession. At the conclusion she was enthusiastically recalled several times. The organ accompaniments were admirably played by Mr. Frank Armstrong, who opened the concert with an organ solo, Sullivan's "O Gladsome Light." Instrumental selections were also played by Mr. G. E. Stear, whose 'cello solos were greatly appreciated. Miss Marjorie Ayling, contralto, was successful in her rendering of "Soul of Mine" (Barns) and the Flower Song from "Faust." Miss Muriel White scored with her songs at the piano; and other attractive turns were Mr. Frank Hudson's living marionettes, and Mr. Norman Rayne, illusionist, in his magic and mystery act.

ARNOLD BAX RECITAL.

An interesting event in the concert world will be the forthcoming recital of works by Arnold Bax, whose name is fresh in the public mind through his recent success as the composer of "The Truth about the Russian dancers." The concert is arranged by Miss Harriet Cohen, who will play several of his piano compositions, in alternation with Mr. John Coats, the well-known tenor, who will sing groups of his songs. Several of the piano pieces are entirely new, such as the ballad "What the Minstrel Told Us" and "The Slave Girl," which is dedicated to Mme. Karsavina.

TOURING CONCERT PARTIES.

NAME.	PROPRIETOR.	MAY 17.	MAY 24.	* NEXT VACANCY.
ANOMALIES	Percy R. Willing	Palace, Stamford.	Aquarium, Brighton.	
ARCADY		Arcadia, Southend.	Arcadia, Southend.	
BREVITY	Richard Jerome	Floral Hall, Scarborough.	Empire, Redcar.	
BUBBLES		Paddock Gdns., Guildford.	Pier, St. Leonards.	
FRILLS & FLOUNCES	Miss R. M. Bilcliffe	Arcadian Pav., Bradford.	Arcadian Pav., Leeds.	
GAIETIES	Wilson James	Albert Hall, Stafford.	Sparrows Nest, Lowestoft.	
GYPSIES	Gane & Morley	Lounge, Hunstanton.	Heath Park, Cardiff.	
HILARITY OF 1920	Harry Bright	H.M.T., Barrow-in-Furness.	Coronation Hall, Ulverston.	
JOLLITY	Richard Jerome		Pier Pavilion, Cromer.	
JOY	Mackenzie Lee	Alexandra Gdns., Weymouth.	Lyme Regis (2), Queen's R., Minehead (3).	
LESLIE'S NOBODIES		Palace, Nelson.	Gaiety, Douglas.	
MISCHIEF	Vaudeville Enterprise	Spa, Bridlington.	Salter's Hall, Droitwich.	
OPTIMISTS	Will Catlin	Arcadian Theatre, Llandudno.	(Summer Season).	
PAN			Pavilion, Derby.	
P.P.P.	Gane & Morley	Pier Pavilion, New Brighton.	Olympian Gdns., Rock Ferry.	
PUNCHINELLI	Gane & Morley	Pavilion, Selsey.	Gardens, Guildford.	
QUALITIES	Miss Edyth Dare	Pavilion, Redhill.	Arcadia, Sandown, I.O.W.	
ROGUES	F. Roper & Bert Brady	Chard.	Ilfracombe.	
ROYAL SCARLETS	Geo. Christian	Pier, Caversham, Reading.		
SUPREMACY	D. Gilbert & A. Wallen		Lyric, Hull.	
TOPICS	Scott & Beckie	Southend.	Hamblin.	
WITS, THE	Richard Jerome	Pier Pavilion, Penarth.		

* The charge for inserting date of next Vacancy in this column is 1/- per insertion prepaid.

SONGS AND SINGERS.

B. Feldman and Co.

Tom Pinglass is making a real success with "I'd Like to be on the Farm." Fanny Hyde is very happy in singing "Mammy o' Mine," with which she scored a success. Macie Lloyd continues her great success in "Don't Dilly Dally." Sandy MacTavish is most enthusiastic about "Who's Coming to the Tartan Ball?" At Canning Town it proved a great draw. Kunning and Windsor are drawing the maximum of applause for splendid work with "Mammy o' Mine." The Famous Martinis are featuring "Lamp of Love" waltz on their Moss tour.

The Canadian Military Choir is making a great feature of "Let the Rest of the World Go By." Conductor Lewis Roberts says the choir is delighted with this fine ballad. Will Reeve and Elsie Moreton are featuring "Fuzzy Wuzzy Woo" in their usual attractive style. Jack McKenzie's new production will include "Who's Coming to the Tartan Ball?" and "Give Me the Sultan's Harem." Harry Arthurs has been featuring "Some Quiet Afternoon" in "Splashes" revue, and having gratifying success. A new number which bids fair to take its place in the forefront of public favour is "Bless My Swanee River Home." Dainty Doris featured it at Hammersmith Paddox last week and made a convincing success of it.

Bertini and Ash were very popular at East Ham last week. They were heartily applauded for "I'm For Ever Blowing Bubbles," "'Neath the Autumn Moon," and "How Ya Gonna Keep 'Em Down on the Farm?" Walter Harding has taken up "Oh, What a Pal was Mary." Doris Thomas, with Lew Lake's "Far East" company, features "For One Sweet Day" in a delightful manner, and the same artist, with Frederick Granger, makes a popular appeal in "If There Hadn't Have Been a Garden of Eden." The "Movie Maid" company are working "I'll Be Happy When the Preacher Makes you Mine" with every success. Collis and Browne score heavily with "Mammy o' Mine," which number they feature regularly.

Star Music Co.

The Gresham Singers at the Holborn Empire last week received well-deserved applause for their artistic rendering of "Down in Virginia." This week they are featuring it at the Empire, Kilburn. Gertie Gitana is singing "You Made Me Happy for a While" to enthusiastic houses at the Grand, Clapham. Chas. Stevens is also doing well at the same hall with "I Must be Married by Twelve o'clock To-night." Jen Latona is pleasing her audiences at the Empire, Chatham, with "Why Did You Teach Me to Love You?" also her new song, "There's a Little Bit of Devil in Ev'ry Little Angel," which she first produced last week at the Empire, Sheffield, with terrific success. Fred Curran is making much merriment at the Empire, South Shields, with "I Know Where the Flies Go." Broughton and Creedon continue to make a big hit with "If We Found a Little Corner in this Great, Big World," which they are featuring at all their engagements.

"Oliver" has proved a big hit in the hands of Maggie Benson. "The Rose of Alabam" is also a big number with Tom E. Pinglass. The new song by Fred Godfrey and Bennett Scott, "Mammy's Mississippi Home" is in great demand by concert party artists and producers, and those who have not done so should call at the firm's professional department and hear this wonderful number, which is by the writers of "Down Texas Way," "My Tennessee," and "Down in Virginia." Constance Risdon and Vedale, writing last week from the Grand, Birmingham, report a big success with "Down in Virginia." This week they are appearing at the Empire, New Cross, and, in addition to "Down in Virginia," they produced for the first time on Monday night "Why Did You Teach Me to Love You?" which was also received with much applause by an enthusiastic audience. Other big numbers which have already found favour with a number of prominent artists, and are also being eagerly secured for the summer season, are "There Are Smiles Behind the Tears," "Nobody Ever Taught Me How To Love," "You Know You Would," "Like No Other Girl," "Come and Do the Kelly Two-Step," and "The Song of My Heart," a delightful ballad.

Herman Darewski Co.

Manny and Roberts made a big hit at the Palladium recently with no fewer than three Darewski songs, viz., "Anything is Nice from Dixieland," "Bo-bo-beedle-um-bo," and "Open Wide the Gates of Dixieland."

Advices received from South Africa state that Darewski songs and pieces are booming over there just now. Prominent hits are the two "Flies" numbers, "Where Do Flies Go in the Winter-time?" and "I Know Where the Flies Go (On a Cold and Frosty Morning)," also "If You Could Care," "Helen of Troy," "A Lonely Soul," "Everything is Peaches Down in Georgia," "You'd Be Surprised," "Indianola," "Chong," "I Want a Doll," "In the Land of Wedding Bells," "Rose of No Man's Land," "What Do You Mean by Loving Somebody Else?" "Little French Mother, Good-bye," and many others.

Peter Bernard made a very big hit at the Palladium last week with his fine rendering of the sterling comedy song "I Used to Call Her Baby."

The Two Bobs go from success to success with their wonderful winning comedy hit, "I Know Where the Flies Go (On a Cold and Frosty Morning)," by Sam Mayo and John P. Harrington.

The Three Scamps are singing six Darewski songs in their act at the present time. These are "The Smart Little Fellow That Stocked Up His Cellar," "I'm the Good Man That Was So Hard To Find," "I Used to Call Her Baby," "They're All Sweeties," "Oh, How She Can Sing," and "I Wonder."

Lottie Lennox, who made such a success at Canning Town last week with Huntley Trevor and John Neat's fine comedy chorus song, "Where Did You Find the Lady?" is repeating her success with this number at the Pavilion, Ayr, this week.

Francis and Day.

The Thirty-ninth Song Annual of this firm, and likewise its companion volume, the Thirty-ninth Dance and Piano Album, was issued to an expectant public on Monday. The following popular songs and ballads are enshrined in the former:—"Give Me the Moonlight," "That's What God Made Mothers For," "Smiles," "Ever Since he Pelmanised," "A Good Man is Hard to Find," "Hindustan," "Signora," "Pennsylvani-ah," "Where There's a Girl There's a Boy," "I Do Like an Egg for My Tea," "Anywhere in the World With You," "Memories of Love and You," "Thuthie," "Play Me a Trickle-y-tickley Tune," "You're Never Too Old to Love a Girl," and "Bella McGraw."

The Dance Album contents include "Where There's a Girl There's a Boy," "Oh, Joy!" and "Everybody Wants a Key to My Cellar," one-steps; "Jakerloo" and "Back Again" fox-trots; "Joy Time" and "Geraldine" valses (the latter a "hesitation" item); "Blue Rose," "La Carina," and "Glad Heart" waltzes; "Moonlight" saunter; "Maurice" tango; and "Joy Ride" lancers.

Ina Hill at Woolwich last week made an emphatic hit with "Love Sends a Little Gift of Roses." Ada Wise likewise scored heavily with this ballad at Camberwell.

"Emalina, My Gal," is receiving excellent treatment on tour at the hands of Earle and Danilo.

The Two Boyds' admired songs at the Queen's, Poplar, included "You'd Better Get Back to the Farm" and "Everybody Wants a Key to My Cellar."

Songs that have been secured with avidity by comedy artists of both sexes for seaside use comprise "There's Something in the Atmosphere of Gay Paree" (sung by Whit Cunliffe), "Italiano" (Two Bobs), "The Wonderful Aerobus" and "Mulligan's Picture Show" (Lake and Barraford), "When the Circus Came to Town," and "The Nancy Lee" (Kirkby and Hudson).

Parker-Charles Music Publishing Co.

The Vivian Peake Sextette made a great success with Garadini's "Only a Sweet Old Melody" last week at Reading Palace.

Peter Dawson has just made an excellent record of "King of the Clouds" for "His Master's Voice," and Robert Carr for "Populars." Baritones who are doing remarkably well with this item include George Baker, Robert Mulvey, Leslie Barton, W. Rowe Johns and Frank Gray. The last-named is also featuring with great success A. Scott Shaw's "The Sergeant-Major"—a rollicking item of equal merit to "King of the Clouds."

Dorothy Forster's "I Just Want You" and "Someone's Singing In My Garden" continue to be very popular with vocalists. The firm is arranging for these songs to be featured by one of our most popular sopranos, who, in addition, will record it for a well-known gramophone company.

STERLING MACKINLAY OPERATIC SOCIETY.

"THE VICAR OF BRAY."

At the King's Hall, Covent Garden, on Friday, the students of the above excellent vocal academy gave a taste of their quality in this delightful light opera by the late Ed. Solomon and S. Grundy, by permission of D'Oyly Carte. A remarkably good performance was the result. The scenery, dresses, and choruses were first rate, and the principals one and all added to their laurels. Miss Vivien Clark was especially good as the Widow Merton, her "widow at thirty-three" gaining a deserved encore; and Mr. Vincent Ryan's distinctive style and fine, resonant voice ensured applause for the hunting song, with capital chorus, and the ballad of the jilted lover's antidote. Mr. Arthur P. Brown was a most genial and time-serving Vicar of Bray, and his dancing with the ladies of the corps de ballet was delightfully droll. Mr. Cecil J. Powell was very funny as the conscientious prig, Sandford; Mr. David Gardner good as everybody's family solicitor; Miss Sinclair was charmingly sympathetic as Winifred, and sang beautifully; Miss Nesta Owen did well as Nellie Bly; and Miss Doris Parfitt as Billy, the page, with an up-to-date ditty, was encored. The dainty solo dance by Miss Kirkpatrick deserves special mention. Sylvienne d'Albert sang selections from grand opera very effectively.

The musical director was, of course, Mr. Sterling MacKinlay, and the producer Mr. Arthur C. Chapman. The dances were devised by Miss Nancy Borrett, and the Kendal Grimston Sextette, from the Playhouse, figured in the chorus.

BATH OPERATIC SOCIETY.

At the annual meeting of the Bath Operatic Society, Judge Gwynne James was again elected President, and the following gentlemen were appointed vice-presidents:, Sir Frederick Bridge, Mr. Egbert Lewis, J.P., Mr. E. German, Mr. A. Carlton, J.P., and Mr. J. H. Colmer, J.P. Mr. F. M. Millard was re-elected treasurer, and Mr. George J. Barron Curtis secretary. The following members were elected on the Committee:—Dr. Curd, Mr. L. E. C. Baker, Mr. H. Forti, Mr. B. Head, Mr. F. J. Wills, Mr. W. A. Sparrow, Mr. A. B. Forti, Mr. Brice Mundy, Mr. W. Amison, and Mr. Shelford Walsh.

Music at Croydon.

Music enthusiasts of Croydon, who attended the Small Public Hall on Tuesday, the 11th inst., enjoyed an excellent concert arranged by Mr. Edward Shakespeare, assisted by several equally competent artists. Mr. Shakespeare's opening piano solo, "Scherzo No. III.," Chopin, and a Nocturne of his own composition, were played with his usual fine style and technique. Miss Elsie Read, who has a clear soprano voice, kept the audience closely at attention; and Mr. Alfred Read cleverly rendered the "Prologue from Pagliacci," and also "Requiescat" (M.S.), with a violin obbligato arranged by Mr. Edward Shakespeare.

Other enjoyable items were given by Mr. Ernest Wellbeloved, "Sketches" and 'cello solos by Mr. W. Granville Britton, and violin solos by Miss Kitty Reeve were all very well received.

The programme concluded with the duet, "O, Lovely Night," capably sung by Miss Elsie Read and Mr. Alfred Read.

NEW SONGS AND PIANO MUSIC.

"Out of the Mists," by "G. J." and Mrs. John Henry Hewitt, one of Messrs. Drummond and Co.'s new publications, is a short song, with a touch of distinction about it, likely to be useful as an encore or as one of a group. The well-written verses liken the irradiation of Life by Love to the rushing up of Dawn that dispels the mists of night. The melody is graceful and both it and the accompaniment deepen the impression of uplifting joy conveyed by the words.

Alice Garrard's "The Peasant's Song of Freedom," is divided into sections illustrating "his joyous indomitable spirit," "his aspiration," the struggles through which he passes on his upward road, and the faith that sustains him. The subject is ambitious enough for a symphony. Although bound by the limits of a very simple pianoforte piece, the composer manages to put a good deal of energetic character into her work. One part is set to the words of a prayer, ending, "Guide us in our struggles, Keep us free of all greed, Help us build a nation, Worthy of its breed." The piece might be used at Labour meetings and "demonstrations." Maurice Elwin's "Never Mind the Shadows" is a poetic paraphrase of such proverbs as "The darkest hour comes before dawn," and "Every cloud has a silver lining." The tuneful music has an optimistic ring about it, and the refrain goes with a good swing.

A march for Scouts, by C. H. Stone, entitled "Scouts, Alert! A Voice is Calling," has a strong, stirring tune, harmonised for four voices.

A budget of songs marked out for popularity and for various voices and types of singers comes from the Oxford Music Co., 3, New Oxford-street. "To Woo," by G. Hubi-Newcombe and Henry Johnson, is one of those bird-courtship songs of the sort that so many sopranos love to sing. A thrush and a wren are the mating pair, which rather upsets the natural selection theory. So does the fact that "Sir Thrush" makes love in "to-whits" and "to-woos" instead of in his own bird dialect. It looks as though his family tree had previously seen some venturesome grafting. But "poetic licence" apart, both words and music are bright, dainty, and vivacious. "Dreaming," by the same writer and composer, is a song with a meditative melody in lulling 6-8 time, and with a note of questioning wistfulness in its words. This would suit a mezzo-soprano or contralto. "The Fairy Dell" told of in Charles G. Mortimer's song is a trysting-place where lovers met and where "she" now wanders sadly and alone. The pretty melody—simple but expressive—echoes the touch of pathos. Contraltos should find the song particularly pleasing.

For tenors "Just a Rose," by William J. Hanna, a song with a mellifluous valse refrain, may be confidently recommended; and for baritones, especially for those of a dramatic type, Lionel Rothery's "The Traveller." The verses sound the "human" note, and the setting is effective. "Bells of Peace," a gavotte for the pianoforte, "composed in France, Nov. 9, 1918," by Andrew de Lleuw, is a showy, attractive piece which should be useful for cinemas.

The Sound Recording Co. are making "popular" records of these and other publications issued by the Oxford Music Co., among them songs by Lilian Jack ("Waiting"), Wallace and Roy Walker ("That Wonderful Dad of Mine"), Hayden Morrise ("Apart"), a "Menuet d'Amour" for pianoforte by Percival Garratt, "Helena Valse," by William Hanna; a violin solo, "Memories," by Alfred Dickinson; and "Broken Blossoms" and "Eyes of Love," valses, by Austin Gerrard and Arthur Hill.

NEW PARKER-CHARLES SONGS.

Seeing that "The Sergeant-Major" is a popular subject for song just now, there should be a welcome for Herbert J. Brandon and A. Scott-Shaw's ditty, just published by the Parker-Charles Co. The tune, a spirited march, has a touch of pomposity about it that humorously hits off one of the distinguishing characteristics of the species. The idea in A. Carrington Briggs' and Leonard Hortin's "I Looked From Out My Window" is pretty and poetic. In the first verse a bereft lover likens his lonely state to desolate winter; in the second he tells his sweetheart that her return means spring-time for the "garden of his heart," just as the swallows' return means spring-time for the flower-garden. The words are well set to melodious and expressive music. Annie Drew's verses to "Whispering Winds" bear an exhortation to let earth's dead past bury its dead and to fix faith in life eternal beyond the grave. A. Carrington Briggs writes the graceful, singable, music to this also.

"Reveil d'Amour," by A. W. Blockey, is a melodious valse varied by animated, well-contrasted material. Percival Lewis' "Jolly Times" fox-trot is exhilaratingly full of snap and go, and Ian Playfair's "Invicta" is a march with plenty of vigour and vitality about it. Pianists of moderate sight-reading attainments will have no difficulty with either one of the three.

STROLLING PLAYERS' ORCHESTRA.

The Strolling Players' Amateur Orchestral Society gave the last concert of the season—their thirty-eighth—at Queen's Hall, before a huge audience, that quite filled the building. Mr. Joseph Ivimey, under whose direction the Strolling Players' position as an orchestra to be reckoned with has so enormously improved, was, of course, in command. The most important feature of a varied programme was Dvorák's fifth symphony, "From the New World," a work that showed the fine tone and admirable balance of the orchestra to advantage, and of this Mr. Ivimey saw to it that an excellent performance was given. The beautiful slow movement was notably well played, the long diminuendo and pianissimo at the close being rendered with great effect.

Equal skill was shown by the players in their work as accompanists in the Grieg pianoforte concerto, in which Mr. William Murdoch played the solo part with characteristic breadth of style and manly authority. Another interesting performance was that of Mr. Hamilton Harty's "Fantasy Scenes from an Eastern Romance," picturesque and imaginative pieces that ought to be in request in programmes of light music; yet this was but their second hearing in London. The composer conducting, the "scenes" were warmly received. Miss Marguerite Nielka's admirers had an opportunity—of which they took full advantage—to applaud her in the "Jewel Song." The overture to Thomas' "Mignon" was also on the programme.

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Miss Madge Atkinson's School of Dancing in Manchester has become an institution for those who realise its very laudable object of creating a deeper appreciation of the beauty of natural movement, in its relation to art, music, and the innate rhythm of life. One of her periodical recitals, demonstrating movement and the interpretation of music through the dance, took place before a select and deeply interested audience at the Houldsworth Hall on Friday evening last. Miss Dorothy Crewe, at the piano, played Bach, Schumann, Chopin, and Beethoven, and graceful and natural dance interpretations were given.

LYCEUM CLUB MUSIC BOARD.

There was a disappointment awaiting the assembly at the Lyceum Club on Tuesday afternoon, 11th inst., for Mlle. Viret, the Swiss soprano coloratina, was prevented by indisposition from travelling from Switzerland. A worthy deputy appeared in the shape of Miss Dorothy Giles, who has a pleasant mezzo voice and sang a number of well-contrasted songs, most of which, it is gratifying to relate, were from the pens of British composers. Several brilliantly executed pianoforte-soli were contributed by Miss Adela Hamaton, and Miss Dawbarn recited with all her wonted skill and success.

Sunday Smoking Concert Society.

There will be no smoking concert at the Æolian Hall on Whit-Sunday.

Song Successes of Two Hemispheres.

We hear that Bert Errol, the remarkable female impersonator, is having a marvellous success in New York and America generally, featuring the song success "The Bells of St. Mary's," by A. Emmett Adams, and Mr. Emmett Adams, it should be added, is on his way through America to Australia (his native country) to demonstrate his many musical successes in ballads and musical comedy.

Society Six.

The Society Six are providing splendid shows at the Leas Pavilion, Folkestone, this week, and giving great pleasure to patrons. The artists are an excellent combination, and the humorous element is irresistible. The artists include Messrs. Henry Bruce, Harry Keeble, Ted Marsh, Will Judge, and Misses Nellie Dyson, Constance Seal, and Gladys Wells.

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FIRST NIGHTS OF THE WEEK.

Dolores at Daly's—Fred Terry's First Benedick—A Matrimonial Comedy.

"A SOUTHERN MAID."

A Musical Play, in Three Acts, Book by Dion Clayton Calthrop and Harry Graham, Lyrics by Harry Graham, Additional Lyrics by Adrian Ross and Douglas Furber, Music by Harold Fraser-Simson, Additional Numbers by Ivor Novello; Produced, for the First Time in London, at Daly's Theatre, on May 15, 1920.

Walter Wex ..... Mark Lester
Sir Willoughby Rawdon ..... Claude Flemming
Todo ..... Lionel Victor
Lord Toshington ..... William Spray
The Hon. Bertie Talc ..... Cyprian Hyde
Lopez ..... Leonard Russell
Sebastian ..... Garth Trevor
Miguel ..... Jack Spurling
Raymond ..... Noel Colne
Gomez ..... Fred Vigay
Francesco del Fuego ..... Bertram Wallis
Lady Julia Chichester ..... Jessie Fraser
Lady Mendie ..... Therese Mills
Estella ..... Jean Stirling
Juanita ..... Dorothy Monkman
Chiquita ..... Gwendoline Brogdon
Dolores ..... José Collins

Evidently, as was said by the Bard of another lady who dwelt in warm climes, "age cannot wither." "The Southern Maid," for, though she owns to two years and more—a long life as musical plays go—and seemed to be at the height of her charms when she first took the stage (at the Prince's, Manchester, on Dec. 24, 1917), she appeared at Daly's on Saturday night radiant in beauty and the freshness of youth. And there, to judge by all the signs, she will stay until she rivals the run of her precursor, "The Maid of the Mountains." To begin with, there is Mr. Fraser-Simson's music, tuneful always, irresistibly rhythmic often, and owning just that note of distinction in the orchestration that was so welcome in the earlier play. Then, Mr. Dion Clayton Calthrop's "book," besides being touched with graceful fancy, is seasoned with humour to suit every taste, and Messrs. Adrian Ross and Harry Graham have turned out some quite charming lyrics. Further, the production, as was only to be expected, considering Mr. Oscar Asche's record, and the advantage of Mr. Robert Evett's "personal direction," is most gorgeous and lovely and satisfying in every detail, Mr. Joseph Harker's three scenes of Santiago, particularly the Market Place and the Orange Grove, seeming to be steeped and saturated in Southern colour, scents, and sunshine; and Mr. Percy Anderson's dress designs are dazzlingly beautiful.

Last, but almost more important than all, there is an altogether fine part, a sort of Carmen, with all Carmen's fire and fascination, for Miss José Collins, which gives the Daly star every singing and acting opportunity. She is Dolores, and Dolores is the prize beauty of Cuba's port. When Sir Willoughby Rawdon, the English, generally absentee, landlord of the country round, arrives in his yacht with a party of friends, he sees Dolores and falls badly and madly in love with her, and she with him. But Dolores is betrothed to Francesco del Fuente, the leader of the local Camorra, sworn to a vendetta against Rawdon by reason of his deceased father's land appropriations in the past. At a card-drawing ceremony held by the Camorrists to decide who shall deal death to the Englishman, the fatal card falls to Dolores. But she, instead of using the handy little dagger she always carries with her, helps Rawdon to escape; and he steals back to claim his lovely bride. Thus all ends happily, after Fuente's jealous and vendettaish fires have been effectually put out through enforced emersion in the waters of the harbour. In all this Miss Collins' chances to sound the gamut of passions and emotions are not few. She makes the most of them, the power of her personality lending strength and subtlety to every situation. Her voice, with its clear, pure, high pianissimo tones, is as beautiful as ever, her style as good in all she sings, beginning with the already popular "Love's Cigarette," going on to the charming "Bird of Blue," with its chorus for unaccompanied soprano and contralto voices, and to the mellifluous "My Way of Love" and "Dark Grows the Sky."

Mr. Bertram Wallis has rarely had a part to suit him as well as Francesco del Fuente. He looks splendidly picturesque and brigandish, delivers his Captain Hook-ish alliterative oaths ("Masterstroke and mudguards" was one of them) with fearsome effect, and put any amount of go into his "Francesco del Fuente" song, a lively, pulse-stirring number with a tune that most people must have carried away with them on Saturday. Mr. Mark Lester, too, is well provided, being the medium of supply of most of the humour, as Walter Wex, an English café-keeper of an unblushingly profiteering cast of character. With Miss Gwendoline Brogdon, delightfully gay, tuneful-voiced, and light-footed, as Wex's sweetheart, Chiquita, Mr. Lester shares "The Cottage by the Sea," a very taking duet, one of several. Another, "A World Without Women," falls to Wex, again, and Todo, the head waiter, played by Mr. Lionel Victor, a good seconder in the humour department. The conquering Rawdon is impersonated by Mr. Claude Flemming, who sings agreeably in a rolling, rocking chorus song, "The Call of the Sea."

For the rest, there is clever work both in song and dance by Miss Dorothy Monkman, alluring dancing by Miss Emmie Dixon and Mr. Fred Farren (who arranged th edance numbers), and neat playing by Miss Jessie Fraser, Mr. William Spray, Miss Therese Mills, Miss Jean Stirling, Mr. Cyprian Hyde, and by Messrs. Russell, Trevor, Spurling, Colne, and Vigay as the conspirators.

The whole performance went with a swing under Mr. Merlin Morgan's direction, and at its close there were scenes of warm and well-deserved enthusiasm.

"MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING."

Revived by Mr. Fred Terry, at the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, on Wednesday, May 12.

Don Pedro ..... Alfred Kendrick
Don John ..... Hugh F. S. Casson
Claudio ..... Leslie Barrie
Benedick ..... Fred Terry
Leonato ..... James Carter-Edwards
Antonio ..... W. H. Garbois
Balthasar ..... Barry O'Neill
Conrade ..... Edmund Crogan
Borachio ..... Tom Roydan
Friar Francis ..... Frank Denman
Dogberry ..... Frank Royde
Verges ..... H. B. Green
1st Watch ..... George Dudley
2nd Watch ..... Philip Bronitt
A Sexton ..... Eaton Norris
Messenger ..... Stephen Jack
A Boy ..... Nellie Griffithe
Hero ..... Lucy Dane
Margaret ..... Madge Escolme
Ursula ..... Elsie Shelton
Beatrice ..... Violet Farebrother

Mr. Fred Terry has in his time played many parts, but not until now has he essayed Benedick, a rôle for which his boisterous humour and robust personality peculiarly suits him. He has scored a hit, a palpable hit. The production is of high quality. The staging is good, the dresses are beautiful, gorgeous in colouring and rich in quality. The special music, which Mr. Edward German has written, is dainty and tuneful, and there was nothing wanting on the opening night to secure an immediate success.

Mr. Terry has adhered pretty literally to the text, and he has managed to make Shakespeare's great comedy quite a rollicking performance, with just the requisite vein of pathos withal, which places the wedding scene on the borderland of tragedy. Mr. Terry acts with spirit and energy throughout. The comedy of the earlier scenes is delightfully limned, and the passages with Beatrice are thoroughly entertaining. There is a fine indignation in the wedding scene, and again more charming badinage at the end. Mr. Terry's reading of the part will rank high among recent Shakespearean revivals.

The Beatrice of Miss Violet Farebrother was a genuine triumph. Her interpretation of the scornful, shrewish, yet lovable woman, dominated by an overpowering passion, was a vivid piece of stage portraiture. Another outstanding feature of the performance was the brilliant acting of Mr. James Carter-Edwards as Leonato. His fierce fury as the outraged father in the fourth act was truly conceived. Mr. W. H. Garbois gave a spirited impersonation of Antonio. The sinister figure of John the Bastard was excellently embodied by Mr. Hugh Casson, while as his tool and mercenary, Borachio, Mr. Tom Roydan was decidedly good. Miss Lucy Dane made a sweet and winsome hero, although perhaps she scarcely rose to the full height of her opportunity when repudiated by Claudio. Miss Madge Escolme and Miss Elsie Shelton were suitably cast as Margaret and Ursula respectively, while Mr. Alfred Kendrick was a courtly Don Pedro. Quite a big share of the credit for a successful performance rested with Mr. Frank Royde's broad comedy as Dogberry. The coarse and illiterary bombastic vanity of the rôle was portrayed with great skill. Mr. H. B. Green was very good as Verges, while Mr. George Dudley and Mr. Philip Bronitt were amusing as the watchmen. The Claudio of Mr. Leslie Barrie was a gallant and passionate study, while Mr. Edmund Crogan was a scornful Conrade. Mr. Frank Denman was a dignified Friar, and Mr. Eaton Norris was deserving of mention as the sexton. Mr. Barry O'Neill made an engaging Balthasar. The orchestration, under the direction of Mr. A. E. Print, was of excellent quality.

"WHY MARRY?"

A Comedy, in Three Acts, by Jesse Lynch Williams, Produced at the Comedy Theatre, on May 13.

Jean ..... Dorothy Tetley
Rex ..... Edward Combermere
Lucy ..... Henrietta Watson
Uncle Everett ..... C. Aubrey Smith
John ..... A. E. George
Cousin Theodore ..... Tarver Penna
Helen ..... Rosa Lynd
Ernest ..... Cowley Wright

However interested you may be in the present-day attitude towards the questions of marriage and divorce as opposed to the ideas of the last generation—ideas that, possessing, you speak of with conscious pride as "old-fashioned," meaning that you consider them infinitely superior, nevertheless, if you hear them discussed for two-and-a-half hours, you will grow weary of the subject, however delightful you may find the actors and actresses who are taking part in the endless discussion. This view seemed to be pretty generally shared by the first-night audience at the Comedy Theatre on Wednesday, when Miss Rosa Lynd presented a comedy which might with equal justice have been called "Why Marry?" or "Why Not Marry?"

The people of the play are divided into two classes, the old-fashioned conventional type and the modern rebels. Head of the former is John, a domestic tyrant, convinced that he can bully and subdue by virtue of the two facts (1) that he is a man, and (2) that he is rich. His wife, after a feeble little spurt of rebellion, bows down to his will; his younger sister, dependent on him (brought up to be married, and nothing else, as the programme has it), agrees to marry a rich young libertine because John wishes it, although the poor child is in love with a decent man, and finds the man with whom she is to spend her life, repellant. Only Helen, John's other sister, defies him, and refuses to be intimidated by his shoutings. Viewing with disgust the married lives of those around her, Helen and the man she loves, a brilliant young scientist with a great future in front of him, decide to live together unhampered by legal ties. Ernest, the man, agrees very reluctantly, and not without a struggle. Result: consternation widespread in the family. A marriage in a church with bridesmaids and white satin and veil is sanctified, they say, even if the contracting parties loathe one another; but a love contract, a life together, for a man and a woman, dedicated to love and work, but without the legal tie, is sin. . . "Then Ill be a sinner," cries Helen, and down comes the curtain. In the third and last act, after more discussion and argument, and many humorous comments by the most charming person in the play, Uncle Everett, he gets the unruly pair married by a trick, to their annoyance, and the unfeigned delight of brother John and the rest of the family.

The play does not afford big acting chances, but it serves to show us Miss Rosa Lynd as a singularly charming and accomplished actress, and fills us with desire to see her in another and more strenuous part than Helen. Mr. A. E. George was admirable as the blustering, despotic, conventional and unscrupulous John, and his wife Lucy was most sympathetically played by Miss Henrietta Watson. Delightful was the Uncle Everett of Mr. C. Aubrey Smith, and Miss Dorothy Tetley put character into John's younger sister, Jean.

THE OLD VIC.

A fine performance of Shakespeare's "Henry IV." (Part II.) was given at the Old Vic. on Wednesday last. Mr. Russell Thorndike was entirely excellent as the dissolute yet debonair old scoundrel, Sir John Falstaff, and the irresistible drollery of the earlier comedy scenes was sharply contrasted with the pathos of the closing situation. His make-up in the part was most realistic. Mr. Charles Warburton gave an artistic rendering of the part of Prince Hal, being at his best in the emotional passages when the reckless young reprobate becomes metamorphosed into a resolute and relentless monarch. Mr. Montague Shaw was impressive as the hapless King Henry IV., and imparted intense pathos to the death-bed scene. Mrs. Campbell Fletcher gave the necessary grim touch of severity to the part of the Lord Chief Justice, and Miss Florence Saunders, as the shrinking tavern troll, looked handsome, and acted with complete abandon. Miss Winifred Oughton gave efficient aid as garrulous old Dame Quickly, and of the others Miss Kitty Carlton was a pert page, and Misses E. H. Paterson and D. Hay Petrie as the two old dodderers, Justices Shallow and Silence, were very droll.

FUNDS, Etc.

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ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND, 8, ADAM-STREET, STRAND, W.C.2. C. I. Coltson, Secretary.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.

The Annual General Meeting of the Subscribers will be held on the Stage of the Criterion Theatre on Tuesday, the 25th of May, at 12 o'clock noon punctually, to receive the report of the Committee, and the accounts for the year 1919. Lady Mary Wyndham (President of the Fund) in the chair. The attendance of subscribers is requested, and all those interested in the work of the Fund are invited to be present.
C. I. COLTSON, Secretary.
Offices, 8, Adam-street, Strand, W.C. 2.

Re LEONARD BOYNE, DECEASED.
NOTICE pursuant to the Statute 22 and 23 Vic. Cap 35.

ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS or demands against the Estate of Leonard Boyne, deceased, late of 55, Talgarth-road, London, W. (who died on the 17th day of April, 1920) are hereby required to send in particulars in writing of their claims or demands to us the undersigned, the Solicitors for the Administrator, Captain Lytton Boyne, of "Holnest," Farway, Honiton, Devon, on or before the 24th day of June next after which date the said Administrator will proceed to distribute the assets of the said deceased amongst the persons entitled thereto, having regard only to the claims of which he shall then have had notice, and he will not be liable for the assets of the said deceased or any part thereof so distributed to any persons of whose claims or demands he shall not then have had notice.
Dated this 4th day of May 1920.
GAMLEN, BOWERMAN & FORWARD, 3 & 4 Grays Inn-square, London, W.C. 1. Solicitors for the Administrator.

SOCIETY OF AUTHORS.

The annual meeting of the Incorporated Society of Authors, Playwrights and Composers was held on Thursday at Central Buildings, Westminster, The Rev. Canon A. C. Deane, chairman of the Committee of Management, presided.

Annual Report.

The committee's report contained a summary of the work of the past year. Details were given as to the steps which had been taken towards the realisation of the dramatists' Magna Charta—the Union of Dramatic Authors. The Dramatic Committee, who were the first to take the matter in hand, began their work some years ago, but only along the present lines in 1918. Many minor points, but still points of importance, had been considered by the committee during the year, and it was also stated that a register of one-act plays had been started.

Authors' Gloomy Prospects.

The chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and the accounts, said he thought they would agree with him that on the whole the report was an eminently satisfactory one. Great progress had been made with regard to the membership, which was now 2,800, a number in excess of any previous year. The Society had more than recovered from the resignations due to the war, and he hoped that next year the membership would reach 3,000. Having referred to the loss sustained by the committee through the deaths of Mr. Charles Garvice and Mrs. Humphry Ward, and to the proposal to take joint action with the Publishers' Association to obtain an amendment to the law of libel, the chairman said he feared that they met at a time which did not hold out very cheerful prospects for those engaged in literature—certainly not for the author, or for contributors to periodicals. There was the paper shortage, which had sent up the cost of paper 500 per cent., and there were the demands of the printers for higher wages, no fewer than eleven of these having been granted since April, 1916, so that some of the printers were being paid more money than some of the sub-editors. Whether this was ultimately to be wise in the workmen's own interests remained to be seen. One of the reviews had published a notice to the effect that it was found impossible to pay contributors, as the printers' demands were so heavy.

It was not, he thought, the moment to define precisely the policy to be followed, but there was a need to insist on the fact that as the expenses of printers, compositors, warehousemen, agents, and binders had gone up, so the living expenses of authors, composers and dramatists had gone up too, and merited consideration.

It was not merely a case whether a certain number of new novels should be produced, but the present state of affairs meant that standard works of English literature would go out of print and would not be reprinted. It also meant—and this was a matter of which the Government should take note—that there would be a tremendous blow at education when educational books of every kind became exceedingly expensive, and many books that required revision would continue in circulation. The publishers would prefer to use their little stocks of paper on newer books. The very fact that there were these difficulties ahead emphasised the need there was for co-operation amongst authors, and that they should develop a spirit of fellowship.

Suggested Strike of Writers.

Mr. James Baker, who seconded the motion, suggested that the writers of books and the newspaper literary staffs should strike, which would compel the bringing down of the wages of the workmen. This proposal might to some people seem absurd, but he believed it would bring about the object aimed at.

Mr. Langford Reed asked a question with regard to the position of the scenario-writer in the matter of film productions. There was a belief that the claims of the scenario-writers had been overlooked by the Society. The chairman said he would ask the secretary (Mr. G. Herbert Thring) to take a note of the point raised and bring it before the Cinematograph Committee.

Mr. Aymer Maude, having pointed out the importance of increasing the membership of the Society, the motion was carried.

The President's 80th Birthday.

The chairman announced that it was the intention of the Society to recognise the eightieth birthday of its revered president, Mr. Thomas Hardy, by presenting him with an address, to be drawn up by Mr. G. Hewitt. It was hoped that a deputation would wait upon Mr. Hardy on his birthday, and express their good wishes on behalf of the Society. The address would be signed by the members of the Council, which was a fairly representative body.

The meeting then closed with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

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A few opinions from popular people.

Mr. MARTIN HARVEY, Grand Theatre, Hull.—"I have been intending for some time to send you a testimonial about your Grease Paints. I have given them a good trial now, and I think I can honestly say that they are superior even to the German, and that, alas! is saying a good deal. I compliment you heartily upon your achievement."

Mr. WILL EVANS, Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.—"I thank you for sample of your Grease Paints you sent, and I find it a very excellent preparation. I shall certainly continue to use it."

THE ERA

ESTABLISHED 1837.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 1920.

CONFECTIONERS ON THE WAR-PATH

THE determined efforts being made by the entertainments industry to secure relief from the restrictions on the sale of sweetmeats in places of amusement have aroused the regular traders to reprisals, and it is announced that the London and South of England Confectioners' Protection Society is seeking the support of manufacturers and wholesalers in the fight it is making against "the endeavours of the theatrical organisations to obtain preferential treatment." We must confess that we do not quite know what the point of view of the Society is. The Early Closing Bill, under which the sale of sweets in theatres is prohibited after certain hours, was brought in with the sole object of reducing the hours of shop workers, among them those who serve in confectioners', and the measure was hailed with pleasure both by shop employees and proprietors as well. Mr. Frank Briant, who had charge of the Bill, declared on the second reading that early closing had not resulted in any loss of business, and that traders themselves had asked for its continuance; while Sir Kingsley Wood, who supported the second reading, added that in the district of Paddington, out of 1,000 shops, 979 were in favour of early closing and only 15 against.

"Dog-in-the-Manger Policy."

But because the regular confectioner has no wish to keep his business open later than at present, the people who go to theatre, music hall, and cinema are to go without the enjoyment of chocolates and ices after the hour of eight. That seems like a dog-in-the-manger policy. "We don't want to do any trade after eight o'clock ourselves, and neither shall you," is what the confectioners say in effect.

The motive of the Early Closing Bill, namely to secure a reduction of hours to shop workers, moreover, has no bearing upon the question in regard to theatres and music halls, for the attendants stay all the evening, irrespective of whether they continue the sale of sweets or not. The contention that sales in theatres would throw out of business a very considerable number of those employed in the confectionery trade is ludicrous. If it means that sweetshops in the vicinity of the theatre would have to close, that is equally illogical, as the theatre or music hall draws the people, and the shops in the neighbourhood remain open quite long enough to catch the queues of playgoers at the latest time of opening. It is not surely suggested that the audience would eat so many sweets purchased in the theatre that they would not want to buy any during the day!

A Ludicrous Contention.

Meanwhile, no efforts employed to secure exemption from the restriction can be too drastic. In their misplaced solicitude for the regular traders the Government have ruthlessly turned a deaf ear to all the arguments in favour of theatregoers, and entertainment providers must adopt all available means to secure justice. In addition to the campaign which has been inaugurated in theatres, music halls, and cinemas throughout the kingdom, it is now decided that managers shall refuse to lend their houses for propaganda purposes, or in aid of charity, until the embargo is removed. Such a course would result in considerable hardship to hospitals and other charitable institutions, but desperate diseases require desperate remedies, and until some measure of justice is rendered to the theatre, there seems no alternative but to withdraw the help to public establishments hitherto so generously and abundantly extended.

THE PLAY IN PARIS.

New Scheherazade at Theatre des Champs Elysees—Feminacy at the Femina—"The Geisha" Gallicised—Increased War Tax Ratified.

PARIS, Saturday.—The production of "Les Mille et Une Nuits" (Arabian Nights) in three acts and nine tableaux written by Maurice Verne, music by H. M. Jacque and A. Cadou, presented on Wednesday at the new opera house on Avenue Montaigne by the enterprising manager, Jacques Wilford, is the best show Firmin Gemier has put on the stage. And he is some producer. The book is also interesting, but of minor importance. The whole attraction lies in the beautiful sets, which are the acme of harmony and brilliancy.

The author first introduces the Sultan returning from a war to learn that his wives have been "carrying on" with the Nubian slaves. He has the whole lot slain, and decides henceforth to choose a virgin bride each night and that she shall be executed next morning. His trust in woman is extinct. The elder daughter of the grand vizier, Sheherazade, offers herself as his first wife, and then holds the Sultan so enthralled by her wonderful tales that the marriage is not consummated until after a thousand nights. Nevertheless the common people, ignorant of her noble intentions, insist she shall not escape from the edict, and must die as publicly proclaimed by the Sultan in his first fury. But she has saved a thousand virgins, and her royal husband is so enraptured that her life is spared by acclamation. In this version Sheherazade is not a frivolous little favourite who is mindful of her own existence, but a girl far superior in wisdom to the other maidens of the realm, who moralises in harangues to the crowd, and is willing to sacrifice herself for others. It is a new impersonation which is hardly Oriental. The rôle is played with conviction by Andrée Megard. The English clown, Pecitt, and Duvalles, hold the parts of buffoons and are frequently seen. Miss C. Goode dances nicely as one of the Sultan's many wives who are slain. There is a big orchestra behind the stage, out of sight, under the direction of Lucien Wormser.

"Une Faible Femme."

Jacques Deval (son of Abel Deval, former manager of the Athenée, &c.) is the author of a three-act comedy which Richemond presented on Tuesday at the Theatre Femina. The story may be moth-eaten, but it is told in a delicious manner, and the Press reception was enthusiastic. Arlette (Mlle. Falconetti), a young widow, hesitates between two suitors, the Don Juan-like Henri and the sentimental Serge. In a moment of weakness, for she is a weak woman, as the title indicates, she surrenders to the sporting Henri, to the great grief of Serge. Arlette recognises the false step as soon as taken, and when the two men quarrel easily convinces Serge he is the husband she prefers, and all ends happily. There are several delightful situations, and the characters are well traced.

"The Geisha" in French.

The popular musical comedy of Sidney Jones' was revived in the local vernacular at the Theatre de la Gaité on Tuesday. The local critics are not enthusiastic, but the show is entertaining. Max Dearly, responsible for the present venture, gags irrepressibly, and is the life of the operetta. The rôle of Mimosa does not seem to suit Marguerite Carré (wife of the director of the Opera Comique), and Jane Pierly has been seen under better conditions. Mlles. Denise Grey and Madry work hard, and Girier, as the tea-house keeper, is amusing. There is a good troupe of English girls under the able direction of J. Sharley, while Henri Casadesus conducts an excellent orchestra.

"Fintje a de la Voix."

This three-act farce, which comes from Brussels, was given at the Gymnase on Tuesday. The author, J. F. Fonson, also wrote "Mariage de Mlle. Beulemans," and he again appears in his own play, which is entertaining, pathetic and clean. Josephine, called Fintje, has a voice. At least, a self-styled star tenor assures the family she will have a big future on the operatic stage, and offers to bring her out. The father sells the pork-butcher's shop in Brussels, and all, excepting the brother Isidore, a poet, come to Paris for her education. The ways of the capital are not depicted in flattering terms, and Fonson preaches the French a few moral lessons. The father is encouraged to go in for horse-racing; he is ruined, and commits suicide. Fintje finds an engagement, but the director of the theatre sets a price which the girl indignantly declines. A blackmailing journalist tries his game, but is finally kicked out. Isidore alone has been wise; he bought back the pork-butchery and hastens to *la ville lumière* to fetch his mother and sister. Fintje gives up the stage and will marry a fateful swain who has patiently waited his opportunity. This smart little comedy will be a success.

Grand Guignol's Latest.

The four fresh items at this blood-curdling resort are not up to the usual quality of stagecraft, and the authors who have endeavoured to supply the shockers have not been wisely inspired. "Les Pervertis," by A. de Lorde and Pierre Chaine, takes us to a low meeting-place where immorality prevails. A woman is recognised by two Belgians as the creature who denounced friends to the Germans and caused their execution. As a punishment for her treachery they place the woman in a coffin, half-strangle her, and nail it down until she is dead.

"Logement d'un Jour" is taken from Jack London by Paulon. Two lovers have eloped to Alaska; they are overtaken by the husband two years after and meet in a hut where they have all taken lodging for the day. The lover tries to shoot the husband in the ensuing quarrel, but the wife is killed. The lover continues on his journey, leaving the husband to grieve over the woman's body. Well acted, but rather obscure.

"Une Riche Affaire," by P. Veber and P. Montrel, is the inevitable bedroom scene. A tipsy "protector" unexpectedly visits his friend's flat one dark night when she is out, her maid impertinently having taken her place during the lady's absence. The protector next morning discovers the error and permanently installs the girl in the flat. This is only a rough outline, but it is all I can tell you of the very risky sketch. Of the same category is "Une Heure d'Amour," by C. Hellem and Pol d'Estoc, wherein another fellow who likewise has not kept to the water-wagon spends the night with a casual acquaintance, and is persuaded he was a sport but is not. He was too intoxicated to know the truth, which goes to prove that illusion is better than reality in some instances. Amusing farce, but rather blue.

Subventioned Dancing School.

Isadora Duncan will open a school of dancing in France under the patronage of the Government. The subvention to be given by the State and the home of the academy, have not yet been decided, but Mme. Duncan has offered to educate 100 orphans and bring them out as finished dancers if supported by the authorities.

War Tax Tariff Confirmed.

For the four months of January to April the proceeds of the French war tax on entertainments have reached the record of Frs. 10,028,000, being Frs. 4,500,000 more than estimated in the last Budget.

The Senate has ratified the schedule of the war tax on amusements as voted by the Chamber of Deputies, the details of which were published here three weeks ago. The increase is therefore maintained, the present rules being 6 per cent. of gross receipts for theatres, 10 per cent. for music halls, a sliding scale from 10 per cent. to 25 per cent. for movies, and 25 per cent. for dancing establishments, after deduction of present 10 per cent. poor rate, and any municipal taxes on admissions.

Question of the "Union Shop."

It was feared last week we were to have another theatrical strike, particularly among the stage hands and staffs of the music halls and revue theatres. The various syndicates presented a revised tariff of wages, necessary to meet the ever-increasing cost of living, the claims being 5 francs extra per day for the scene shifters, electricians and working staff; 2 frs. for inspectors (or controlers); 3 frs. per day extra for supers, chorus, dancers and actors earning less than 1,000 frs. per month; 3 frs. daily indemnity for musicians and dressers. The delegates presented the schedule to the directors and informed them the staffs would not resume work (or play) on May 2 if the extra remuneration was not granted. This slight increase of an average of a shilling per day is thoroughly justified, and the majority of the managers at once promised satisfaction. Others asked for time to study the situation, and nearly all have since given an affirmative reply to the Federation du Spectacle, which is affiliated to the C.G.T.

The Closed Shop.

A strike has thus been avoided in this corporation, the theatrical people deciding not at present to make an issue of the Union shop, which has been continually demanded by many actors since the last strike. The question, therefore, is not settled, and although several managers have already agreed to engage 90 per cent. of union members the different syndicates have not renounced the former claim of a closed theatre to non-unionists, though the legal advisers recognise it is unconstitutional and contrary to freedom of labour. But if the manager can be induced to engage only syndicated actors, as the Federation hopes later, that will settle the question without disturbing any of the present laws.

In Honour of Franconi.

At the Maison de l'Œuvre M. Lugné Poe devoted a soirée to the poetical works of Gabriel Tristan Franconi, who was killed on July 23, 1918. Mobilised as a private in the artillery, he was transferred at his wish to the infantry, where he rapidly won the grade of lieutenant and was known as the ace of the literary group. These facts were explained in a preliminary lecture, after which Jean Hervé and René Recher (of the Comedie Française), Pierre Bertin (of Odeon), Mmes. Marcelle Prappa (one of the prominent organisers of the Œuvre), Paulette Pax and Suzanne Teisier, with Lugné Poe and France Ellya, recited verse of the deceased poet.

PLIGHT OF THE PROFESSIONAL CLASSES.

A FEW HOME TRUTHS.

By GEORGE GRAVES.

I have a serious grudge against the Government, or, at any rate, against the powers that be in many directions of our national life.

There is one matter I want to discuss. It is of deep interest to the theatrical profession as a whole, and, for that matter, to all the professions—science, art, literature, and so forth.

Like most others, I have come across people who, unlike leopards, have changed their spots. In other words, before the war they lived from hand to mouth, but

MR. GEORGE GRAVES.

now they dwell in luxurious affluence. They are the new-rich. On the other hand, there are hundreds who before the war were living in decent comfort, but now are existing as best they can, because the Gods of War conspired to deprive them of their means. The new-rich can ride about in motors de luxe; their poorer brethren take a pennyworth of tram.

Travelling Expenses.

Taken on the whole, the salaries of theatrical artists have not been increased, though the wages of the people they employ have gone up, and, despite this, an attempt has been made, and will probably be made again, by the Government to increase the expenses of travelling artists by depriving them of the existing railway facilities. I observe that a deputation of touring managers, of representatives of the Theatrical Managers' Association, and of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association recently waited on the Minister for Transport to lay before him their grievances with questions of considerable import to the profession—the "free truck" for travelling companies, and the threatened increase in the railway fares from the three-quarter to the full rate per head. And I am glad to know that the deputation gained a point. The Ministry promised to restore the "free truck" until August, 1921, and agreed to grant an extension of the present travelling facilities for touring companies until the end of June, when—the question will come up again for discussion.

Why until the end of June? Hasn't the theatrical profession, by the good work it did during the war in the direction of assisting to cheer up our soldiers and sailors, and in helping to raise huge funds for war charities, deserved some other recognition than a threat of depriving them of concessions which they have had for so many years?

Free Services.

Artists gave their services free during the war. Are they not entitled to some consideration now? The whole suggestion of the Government is monstrous, and ought to be resisted to the uttermost.

It may be the Government will not interfere with the facilities enjoyed by commercial travellers—the week-end ticket system—for the travellers are too rich and too powerful a body to accept any interference with their ancient rights. Commercial travellers, by joining a Union, have a big reduction in their fare to town, but the poor actors are shoved about in all directions on Sundays—from siding to siding, and reach their destination — well, when they get there. And for this privilege they have been asked to pay increased fares. It is quite time we bestirred and asserted ourselves against this imposition. We are too apt to take injustice lying down. I notice that the Actors' Association have asked a Member of Parliament to look after their interests in the House of Commons. I hope he will fight hard for the profession.

And if the Government insist after June in demanding their pound of flesh from theatrical and music-hall artists, I shall urge all connected with the profession to decline to give their services in future to any movement with which any Government department is interested as a protest.

Ridiculous!

It is ridiculous for the Government to attempt to take away from us a small concession since we have done so much for them during the war. Those who fought for the country, and know how much benefit they derived from the entertainments of actors and actresses, will, I am sure, support us in our claim. The profession gave something for nothing, and now the Government wants us to pay for what we did!

Almost everybody, except the professional classes, fattened their purses, so to speak, during the war. The only money the professional classes have left after paying their way in life is what they have been able to save from the clutches of the tax-gatherer; while those who have made their bit refuse any longer to turn up in the pit at the theatre in yesterday's collars, but instead book seats in the stalls, and pick their teeth with a programme.

Commandeer Wealth.

What these people have been able to scoop up in one deal is much more than my life's savings could be. Why doesn't the Government commandeer some of the wealth which these new-rich have accumulated. If a man has made £200,000 more than he ought to have done during the war, take £100,000 from him; he will have plenty left to live upon. I am not anxious to make plenty of money, but I want enough to live on. Theatricals, like other professionals, are taxed to the eyebrows. That is why the Government must be prevented from taking away our little concession.

AS YOU LIKE IT.

Not permitted after eight o'clock—"Chewing the food of sweets." (*As You Like It*, IV. iii.)

* * *

Yes, we have to buy our "chocs." early, because we mustn't buy choco-late!

* * *

I see Fred Allandale is telling us that "circumstances make a joke go." And sometimes they also make the man who perpetrates the joke go.

* * *

The *Daily Mirror* tells us that Billy Wells is very fond of the theatre. He is equally happy in a public box or a private one.

* * *

So we are shortly to see "Sand" at the Duke of York's. This is consoling for those who cannot get away this year to the seaside.

* * *

"Husbands for All" may be a good idea—but houses for all would be even better!

* * *

It is good to find that the Guitrys have received unreserved praise. I knew they would. But I may mention that the reserved factions of the audience were equally friendly.

* * *

Our good friend Lupino has just told an interviewer that he never seriously considered any other walk of life. Clearly, he was destined for a theatrical Lane.

* * *

A contemporary informs us that "George Mozart favours a safe-robbery play." It seems queer taste. In real life, the less safe-robbery is, the better.

* * *

Bourchier's forthcoming production of "Tiger, Tiger" reminds me that, according to rumour, another "Tiger" may shortly be reproduced in France.

* * *

I am not surprised to hear that Jasha Heifetz is fond of flying. Doesn't he spend half his time flying from people who make a fuss of him.

TOUCHSTONE.

WHAT'S ON IN TOWN.

ADELPHI (Strand, W.C.).—"Who's Hooper?" 8.15. Wed., Sat., at 2.15. Gerr. 2545.

AMBASSADORS (Cambridge Circus, W.C.).—"The Grain of Mustard Seed," 8. Tues., Sat., 2.45. Gerr. 4460.

APOLLO (Shaftesbury-avenue, W.).—"Tilly of Bloomsbury," 8. Tues., Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3343.

COMEDY (Panton-st., S.W.).—"Why Marry?" 8.30. Thurs., Sat., 2.30.

COURT (Sloane-sq., S.W.).—"Peter Ibbetson," 8.15. Wed., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 848.

CRITERION (Coventry-st.).—"Lord Richard in the Pantry," 8.30. Tues., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3844.

DALY'S (Cranbourn-street, W.C.).—"A Southern Maid," 8. Tues., Sat., Whit Mon., 2.

DRURY LANE (Drury-lane, W.C.).—Anna Pavlova Season, nightly, 8.30, Weds. 2.30. Gerr. 2588.

DUKE OF YORK'S (St. Martin's-lane, W.C.).—"Pygmalion," 8.15. Wed., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 514.

EMPIRE (Leicester-square).—"Irene," 8.15. Mon., Wed., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3537.

GAIETY (Strand, W.C.).—"The Shop Girl," 8. Wed., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 2780.

GARRICK (Charing Cross-rd.).—"One Night in Rome," 8.30. Thurs., Sat., 2.30.

GLOBE (Shaftesbury-avenue).—"A Marriage of Convenience," 8. Sat., 2.30.

HAYMARKET (Haymarket, S.W.).—"Mary Rose," 8.30. Wed., Thurs., Sat., 2.30.

HIS MAJESTY'S (Haymarket, S.W. 1).—"Chu Chin Chow," 8. Wed., Thurs., Sat., and Whit. Mon., 2.15. Gerr. 1777.

KINGSWAY (Great Queen-street, W.C.).—"Within the Law," 8.30. Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 4032.

LITTLE (John-st., Adelphi).—"Husbands for All," 8.30. Reg. 2401.

LONDON PAVILION (Piccadilly-circus, W.).—"Algar," 8.30. Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 704-5.

LYCEUM (Wellington-street, Strand).—Carl Rosa Opera Co., 7.45. Wed., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 7517.

LYRIC (Shaftesbury-avenue, W.).—"The Bird of Paradise," 8. Wed., Sat., and Whit. Mon., 2.15. Gerr. 3037.

NEW (St. Martin's-lane).—"Carnival," 8.30. Thurs., Sat., 2.30. "Othello," Wed., 2. Reg. 4424.

OXFORD (Oxford-st., W.).—"The Man Who Came Back," 8.30. Wed., Sat., 2.30. Museum 1740.

PALACE (Shaftesbury-avenue).—"The Whirligig," 8.15. Wed., Thurs., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 6834.

PARK (Hanwell).—May 17, 18, 19, "A Fool's Paradise." May 20, 21, 22, "Duke of Killiecrankie," 8. Ealing 469.

PRINCE OF WALES (Coventry-st., W.).—"Bran Pie," 8.—Wed., Fri., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 7482.

PRINCE'S (Shaftesbury-avenue).—"Pretty Peggy," 8. Wed., Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3460-1.

QUEEN'S (Shaftesbury-avenue).—"Young Person in Pink," 8.30. Wed., Thurs., Sat., and Whit. Mon., 2.30. Gerr. 9437.

ROYALTY (Dean-street, W.).—"The Admirable Crichton," 8.15. Thurs., Sat., 2.30.

SAVOY (Strand, W.C.).—"Paddy, the Next Best Thing," 8; Mon., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 3366-7.

SHAFTESBURY (Shaftesbury-avenue, W.).—"The Little Whopper," 8.15. Wed., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 6666.

ST. MARTIN'S (West-street, W.C. 2).—"The Skin Game," 8.30. Tues., Fri., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 1243.

STRAND (Strand, W.C.).—"Come Out of the Kitchen," 8.30. Wed., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3452-3.

VAUDEVILLE (Strand, W.C.).—"Just Fancy," 8.30. Tues., Thurs., Sat., 2.30.

WINTER GARDEN THEATRE (Drury-lane, W.C.).—"Kissing Time," 8. Sat., 1.15. Gerr. 416.

WYNDHAM'S (Charing Cross-road, W.C.).—"The Choice," 8.15. Wed., Sat., 2.30. Reg. 3028.

VARIETY THEATRES.

COLISEUM (Charing Cross).—T. Gamsakourdia, M. Demidoff and W. Orloff, Syncopated Orchestra, Cecilia Loftus, Wilkie Bard, Fredk. Ross in Will Evans' sketch, "The Assassin," &c., 2.30 and 7.35. Gerr. 7541.

HIPPODROME (Leicester-square).—"Joy Bells," 2.30 and 8.30. Gerr. 650.

PALLADIUM (Argyll-street, W.).—George Lashwood, Ruth Vincent, Harry Weldon, Albert Whelan, Percy Heard, Lake and Barrasford, Laddie Cliff, Daly and Healy, June Mills, &c., 2.30, 6, 8.40. Gerr. 7094.

THEY SAY——

That M. Sacha Guitry has acted in forty-three plays written by himself.

* * *

That Edgar Wallace's new piece, "The Lion's Mouth," will contain eleven scenes, and occupy sixty-five minutes.

* * *

That James H. Dowd, the *Punch* artist, is going to paint Henry Ainley's portrait.

* * *

That Lilian Caldicott has lost a valuable diamond brooch near the Savoy.

* * *

That H. A. Vachell's favourite motto is, "Take heed of your thoughts and your acts will take care of themselves."

* * *

That he thinks he made up the motto himself—but is not sure!

* * *

That Jay Laurier was once taken by his landlady for Harry Lauder minus his kilt.

* * *

That Mary Pickford and Douglas Fairbanks have never yet acted in a film together.

* * *

That Sydney Fairbrother's white rat never leaves her dressing-room when she is in it.

* * *

That Tom Stuart holds the professional record for anecdote spinning.

* * *

That when Stanley Lupino and Charlie Chaplin used to appear on the halls together, they earned £2 11s. a week between them.

THE VARIETY WORLD.

Johnny Jones at the Alhambra—Brinsworth Garden Party—A Dickens Ball—V.A.F. Manchester Meeting.

"Johnny Jones."

Although the date of the production of "Johnny Jones" at the Alhambra has been announced in some quarters, we understand at the time of going to press that it has not yet been fixed. The joyous George, as Johnny Jones, seems, from all accounts, to have a fine character, or characters, in this Robey salad, compounded libretically by Harry M. Vernon and musically by M. Charles Cuvillier. Sister Sue is also shaping as a splendid part for that clever little comedienne, Ivy St. Helier.

From Manchester to London.

Mr. Geo. F. Reynolds, the popular acting manager of the Manchester Hippodrome, has been promoted, after twelve years' service under Sir Oswald Stoll, to a similar position at the London Alhambra.

Brinsworth Garden Party.

The president of the Variety Artistes' Benevolent Fund (Mr. James W. Tate) is giving a garden party to the friends and supporters of the charity in the grounds of the institution, Brinsworth, Twickenham, on Sunday, May 30, from 3 to 6.30. There will be an afternoon tea and a band on the lawn, and among the attractions will be a novelty concert and other unique features. Admission tickets, price 10s. each, can be obtained on application to C. Douglas Stuart, secretary, 18, Charing Cross-road, W.C. 2.

Reopening of the Karsino.

Fred Karno's Palace of Pleasure on what was Tagg's Island, Hampton Court, reopens for the season next Saturday with all sorts of new attractions—dramatic, variety, musical, terpsichorean, &c., &c.

A Welcome Return.

Edward Foster, for some time manager of the Alhambra, and since dramatic and "vaudeville" manager in America, has just been appointed by the Grossmith-Laurillard firm manager of the Winter Garden in Drury-lane. E. F., ever a resourceful raconteur, has, we find, come back fuller of stories than ever.

A Wandering Composer.

Archie Emmett-Adams, the melodious composer, who lately sailed for a holiday at the Antipodes (whereof he is a native), writes us from Vancouver, where he is looking around en route. He states that he found his ballad, "The Bells of St. Mary's," quite the rage in New York, Chicago, Vancouver, &c. At the moment of mailing he was embarking for Australia per the Makura.

Terry's Juveniles.

Terry's Juveniles appearing at Kingston Empire last week, won golden opinions. They are an exceptionally talented troupe, who find favour with their audiences by their very versatile manner and winning ways. The performance of little Hilda Ruben, the 11-year-old daughter of Mr. Jack Ruben, the proprietor of the Rubani Trio, is little less than marvellous for one so young. Little Hilda is known as the "Second Ada Reeve," and sings with all the style of that well-known artist. She is also an accomplished pianist. Undoubtedly a very excellent show. These clever Juveniles open a tour of the L.T.V. at Islington Empire in June.

"So Easy."

That rollicking farcical sketch, "So Easy," which was successfully produced at the Islington Empire a few weeks ago, has unfortunately been laid on the shelf since, owing to the illness of Mr. Johnny Dewar, who pluckily sustained the principal rôle on the last night with a temperature of 102. Mr. Dewar is now well again and booking dates for the sketch, with a cast which, in addition to himself, includes Miss Madge Andrews and Miss Edna Zora, etc.

Mr. C. C. Crossley.

We regret to announce that, owing to a breakdown in health, Mr. C. C. Crossley, booking manager for the Albany Ward Circuit, has had to take a rest. He hopes, however, to resume his duties again before many months are past. During his absence the vaudeville and theatrical booking department will be in the capable hands of Mr. C. H. B. Dowding, who has worked in conjunction with Mr. Crossley for a number of years. Mr. Crossley will be very pleased to hear from any friends. His address is: The Home Sanatorium, West Southbourne, near Bournemouth.

Variety Artistes' Transport Co.

The Variety Artistes' Transport Company (V.A.T. Co., Ltd.) has commenced its business transporting performers' luggage across London, and, as was anticipated, has started splendidly with a large and increasing amount of support from the profession. Artists wishing to avail themselves of the advantages of this company can obtain the free postcards and labels from all the principal M.H.A.R.A. provincial offices and agencies, or on application to the manager, 177, Westminster Bridge-road. To prevent misunderstanding it may be again mentioned that the price for a basket within a distance of 4 miles from the depot is 2s. 6d., and the reduced prices are charged for larger quantities. Luggage of all kinds can be stored at a low charge with free access during office hours.

The Dickens Ball.

Mr. Bransby Williams is the honorary organiser of the Dickens Costume Ball to be held in the Queen's Hall on Wednesday, the 26th, in aid of the Veterans' Association. Princess Louise has given her patronage, and among those who have promised to attend are the Duchess of Abercorn, the Duchess of Rutland, Lady Raglan, Lady Maud Wilbraham, Lady Diana Duff Cooper, Sir Frederick Milner, Major Arthur Haggard (founder of the Association), Commander C. G. L. Woollcombe, and Captain Edgar J. P. Woollcombe.

Numerous stars of the stage will appear in costume. Mr. Leslie Henson will go as the Artful Dodger, Miss Madge Saunders as Agnes, Miss Constance Collier as Nancy Sikes, and Mr. Edmund Gwenn as Mr. Pickwick, while Mr. Fred Allahdale, Mlle. Delvsia, Mr. Robert Loraine, Miss Fay Compton Mr. C. B. Cochran, and Mr. Alfred Lester will also grace the scene. Features of the occasion will be a "Dickensian Fox Trot" and the Barnaby Rudge Maypole Dance.

The aim of the Veterans' Association is to establish a permanent club for all Service and ex-Service men of the Navy, Army, and Air Force. At present the Veterans' Club is established in Hands-court, Holborn, but the accommodation there falls far short of requirements. During the war the Club did excellent work in the way of storing furniture for members with the Colours, with the result that 230 homes were preserved for the returning warriors.

The desire now is to provide an establishment with a thousand beds for the use of ex-Service men, and a convalescent home is also among the aims of the promoters. A million pounds is necessary to carry out the purposes of the Committee, and it is hoped that the Dickens Ball will go some way towards realising that amount.

Palace Theatre, Manchester.

The special attention of artists holding contracts with Variety Theatres Controlling Co., Ltd., to appear at the Manchester Palace, is drawn to an announcement on this page.

George Bass Busy.

George Bass is deputising for George Carney this week at the Ardwick Empire, Manchester, as well as playing his turn at the neighbouring Hippodrome.

A Fine Record.

Gerard Heath, son of the late Frank Heath, who was so well known in theatrical and music hall circles, has a record of which any man might be proud. He joined up in the second week of the war as a "Tommy" in the Seaforth Highlanders, later receiving his commission, and rose to the rank of Major at the age of 23. He served overseas, and was wounded three

(*Photo., Foulsham and Banfield*

GERARD HEATH.

times, ending by commanding a machine gun company on the Rhine. Demobilised from the Army last June, he has since become a partner with Edward Cranston (his step-father) in the theatrical and variety agency at 19, Sackville-street, Piccadilly, and is already booking many tours of West End companies. Gerard Heath is a fine linguist, and very smart at figures.

"Honest Rogues."

Mr. Albert Wyndham will produce his new comedy playlet, "Honest Rogues" (a tale of the turf), on Monday next, at the Palace Theatre, Reading. The plot concerns a well-devised scheme to win the forthcoming classic race. The name of the horse which it is arranged shall win (an outsider) is known to a trapped cracksman, who accidentally divulges his knowledge of the plot to his captor, but declines, though offered liberty, to reveal the name of the horse. Mr. Wyndham will be supported by Miss Pat. Creswick as the racehorse owner.

The Terriers.

At the meeting on Sunday last Howard Ward officiated as W.T., Bruce Green as V.T., Joe Adkin W.L., Fred Dunstone W.D., Dick Henderson Y.B., and Arthur Were secretary.

A hearty welcome was extended to Eddie Gray and Dick Henderson upon their reappearance in the Kennel.

The following applications for membership have been received: First notice, Thomas Mountford; second notice, Jim Nolan; final notice, H. J. Renard, Carr Lynn and Dan Eden.

Early application should be made for tickets for the annual dinner, to be held at Frascati's on June 6.

Thornley-Dodge.

Mr. Thornley-Dodge scored another big success at the Pavilion, Torquay, last week, during his engagement with Mr. Alfred Haines' English Ballet. He presented a large repertoire, and his Sidney Carton and Amorous Bill met with a most enthusiastic reception.

V.A.F. Meeting at Manchester.

Mr. J. B. Taylor presided at the usual weekly meeting of members of the V.A.F., held at the Salisbury Hotel, Manchester, on Friday last. There was not a large attendance, and one question brought up for discussion seemed rather apropos, namely, whether such meetings should be continued and extended to other large towns. The few present voted unanimously in favour of continuing the Manchester meetings, and considerable interest was shown in the general business. The question of the relations between performers and stage hands was alluded to, but did not come under detailed discussion; mention also was made of the movement on foot to enlist the interest of members of Parliament in eliminating undesirable agents from the profession, and of the injurious effects of "Beauty" competitions in introducing people to the stage independently of the question of talent.

In response to a request by the chairman that the executive of the V.A.F. should be assisted in their campaign against against offending agents by members openly declaring their grievances, a complaint of a rather serious nature against a certain agent was put forward by two members. A discussion on the benefit or otherwise of the talent-finding "auditions" proved interesting and enlightening, and finally a resolution was formulated and unanimously supported that the executive should use all its influence to ensure that pre-war values should no longer be made the basis of current contracts.

Mlle. Irma Lorraine.

Mlle. Irma Lorraine, who has been playing the provinces since the beginning of this year topping bills on the Broadhead and the Macnaghten Tour, and the first-class independent halls, is returning to town on Monday, opening at the Hammersmith Palace.

Emmerson and Gilbert.

At the New Cross Empire this week Emmerson and Gilbert, otherwise the Dago and his Black Friend, are making their first appearance in town, and made a hit with their original material. They will be at the Chiswick Empire on Monday week.

Connie Browning.

That versatile entertainer, Connie Browning, who opened on the Moss Tour at Swansea on Monday, with Morecombe and Cardiff to follow, will feature "Dinky Kid" and "You Made Me Happy For Awhile." Next month Connie will make her reappearance in town.

Leslie Strange.

The clever burlesque entertainer, Leslie Strange, who was in town last week at Hackney, has been secured for all the leading tours, including Moss, Stoll, L.T.V., D. J. Clarke, and the Victoria Palace, opening at the latter house in November. When Leslie returns to Shepherd's Bush at the end of July he will introduce some new characters, written by Fred Austin. We hear that Leslie is considering one or two offers he has had to appear in production.

Miss Marie Brett.

At the Stratford Empire last week Miss Marie Brett gave excellent support to Walter Catlett in "Keyhole Cameos," which was produced for the first time. Later on it is hoped that Miss Brett will be given further opportunities. At present she is seen in two numbers, one of which is a duet with Ben Taylor, who puts in some capital work.

For South Africa.

The following artists sailed from Southampton on Friday last, per R.M.S. Saxon, to fulfil engagements with the African Theatres Trust, Ltd., booked by the I.V.T.A., Ltd.:—Will Tyler, Ted Charter, Vine and Russell, Pat Rene. Also the undernoted to play in Gilbert and Sullivan opera:—Miss Doris Cameron, Christian Lorimer, Dorothy Westall, Cecile Hope, Olive Innes, Audrey Hyslop, Violet Tomlin, Florence Ellis, Marguerite Mostyn, Edward McKeown, Richard Andean, Willie Hartigan, Oscar Langwade, Hugh Ormond, David Henley, Norman A. Carr, Alexander Haviland.

Walter Catlett's Variety Début.

At the Stratford Empire last week the clever American comedian, Walter Catlett, made his first appearance on the variety stage in "Keyhole Cameos." He naturally felt a bit strange at first in his new surroundings, but quickly made good with his dry humour, and the attractive act should prove a great success. Walter tells us that he has no intention of forsaking the theatre, but that his present tour will enable him to visit the chief provincial towns, of which he has heard so much. It is nearly twenty-five years since he made his stage début. That was in a circus, and since then he has played every kind of part, from minstrelsy to comic opera, and visited practically every city in the States.

Ray Kay.

On Monday next Ray Kay will reappear in town at the Stratford Empire in that amusing scena, "Fun in a Music Shop." Ray is now solely represented by Julius Darewski, who has just secured two Stoll tours for him, in addition to many independent dates.

Barker and Tarling.

After playing the Empire, Glasgow, next week, those popular entertainers, Lois Barker and Percy Tarling, "The Grumblers," will resume the L.T.V. tour. Last year they appeared at the Palladium on no fewer than eight different occasions, and once or twice they were called upon to deputise for well-known artists. Lois and Percy have both met with considerable success with their compositions, here and in America, "The Enchanted Glade," a delightful ballad, having a huge sale abroad. Another ballad, "That Dear Old Song," is at present being featured by Henry Corner, Nellie Wigley, and Broughton and Creedon.

Presentation to J. Joseph Ellis.

Mr. J. Joseph Ellis, the popular manager of the Grand Palace, Clapham, last week received a gift of which he is naturally very proud. This was a presentation from the inmates of a local military hospital in recognition of the entertainment which Mr. Ellis has arranged for them each week.

Cyril Boganny.

We are pleased to hear that Cyril Boganny has recovered from his recent indisposition, and that he has rejoined Joe Boganny in his latest hit, "Oh, What a Night for the Billposters." In this Cyril varies his acrobatic work by appearing in the second scene as a rag-time vocalist, a performance which is a decided acquisition to the show.

Felice Delia.

At Islington last week, that clever artist, Felice Delia, was called upon to deputise for Jane Croft, who was absent through indisposition. Miss Delia gained a hearty reception for her two numbers, which included a capital Italian-American character song. This week Miss Delia is appearing at Willesden.

We hear from Vasco, who is in town this week at New Cross, that his son has been appointed by Mr. Alan Young as resident manager at the Palace, Salford, and commences his duties on Monday.

MY MUSIC HALL TOUR.

WHAT ARE THEY REALLY LIKE?—LADY WITH A WONDERFUL BARITONE VOICE.—LOTINGA'S LATEST SKETCH.

You do not recognise a sweep when he is clean. Do you recognise a black-faced comedian when he is white? Perhaps it depends upon the degree of duskiness. I think, for instance, that I should recognise G. H. Elliott if I met him in mufti in Trafalgar-square, but I doubt whether I should know George Morton unblacked if we travelled all the way from London to Edinburgh together. His blackness may have been but skin-deep when I saw him last week at the Euston—nevertheless it effectively concealed all that lay beneath.

One's curiosity is tickled by these mysteries of the halls. What does Chirgwin look like without his white eye? Is Ernie Mayne quite as fat off the stage as he is on? Could I, with a sandy wig and a dab of red paint on my nose, deceive you into believing that I was somebody else?

At the Euston.

George Morton describes himself as America's representative black-faced comedian. He is an amusing fellow, and gave a versatile performance at the Euston, jumping from song to anecdote, from anecdote to dancing, and from dancing to the banjo. All he asks is that you do not take him too seriously. When he tells you, for instance, that he is about to sing a song entitled "A Bumble-Bee Bumped Into Me and Pushed," don't be surprised if he sings about something quite different. I liked him best when he was playing his banjo and discoursing at the same time. He is an adept at both.

Having lately seen "Billy Wells" and the Eclair Twins, I was under no delusions about the identity of the former. As a matter of fact, while this Billy Wells was frivolling at the Euston, the other Billy Wells was preparing for his fight at Olympia. I did get a surprise, however, when Bella Sylvia came on and began to sing. She has an extraordinary voice. It is like a man's voice, only more so. The odd part of it is that, when she starts to sing, you almost expect to hear a titter, but there is no titter, for she sings—and sings well—serious songs, and the audience takes her seriously. Close your eyes to clear yourself of confusion, and you realise that she has a most effective voice.

The Pasquali Brothers gave their clever acrobatic turn, carrying each other on their heads in a manner that would make even a Covent Garden basket-bearer jealous. Another couple who amused the audience were MacLedd and Britton. They are a neat pair, and the semi-tipsy one gets his effects very artistically. A lively turn was given by Kitty Curtis, who made a big hit with "Oh, That Baby o' Mine" Among her other songs was "You'd Be Surprised."

Evelyn May switched us from lively gaiety into an atmosphere of studious music and shaded lights. Evelyn was not dressed in rags or as an Apache, like so many other lady violinists, but gave us an evening gown and an élite atmosphere. Her accompanist contributed to the polished performance, which ended amid vanishing lights. One by one the electric gleams went out, the last one dying on the violinist as she finished her playing.

The Euston programme concluded with Solo, whose sketch has many funny moments, and an idea which is distinctly good.

At the Islington Empire.

I found Islington in a very merry mood when I tripped into the Empire. Costa and Geo started the ball rolling, flying round horizontal bars with great dexterity. Clasie Lupino followed with two songs, of which she was best in the last, "I'm Jack-in-the-Box." Then come fifteen minutes of almost continuous laughter—to boot, Ernie Lotinga and company in "Josser, K.C." This is the funniest thing I have seen Ernie do. He is immensely comic. It would require several courses of Pelmanism to describe the plot clearly and concisely, but during the course of it Jimmy Josser chloroforms a wealthy widow, an advocate, a client, a pal, and two detectives, escaping, as the curtain falls, with the "boodle."

Malcolm Scott was, if possible, more topical than ever. He talked about brother turns, and gave us the result of the Olympia boxing match. Esta Stella's vim astonishes me more every time I see her. Is it her natural expression—does she rush about all day long—or does she store her energy up throughout the day, and hurl its accumulated force at us in the evening? The effect, in any case, is electric.

Jane Croft did not appear, and Herries and Davis deputised for her. One was a girl, the other a man, and they sang a duet very charmingly. One duet was hardly enough, but these matters lie in the laps of the managements, I suppose. Jock Mills soothed our disappointment by giving us a very breezy ten minutes. He sang "She's as Modest as a Daisy," and rattled off a long string of Highland stories, following the usual Highland plan of scoring off Sandy as well as other people. His story about the Scot who, after being "treated" to numerous lunches by an Englishman, protested one day that he must do his share and was willing to toss for it, is quite rich, and proves that Robert Burns' own countrymen at any rate have the gift of seeing themselves as others see them.

Only you are never quite sure, you know, whether they really and truly mean it!

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JULIUS DAREWSKI.

Mr. Julius Darewski, a brother of Herman and Max Darewski, who quite recently started a variety agency at the palatial Darewski House, 122 and 124, Charing Cross-road, W.C., where he has acquired a handsome suite of rooms, is rapidly making headway. Among the many well-known acts for whom he is sole and exclusive business manager are Max Darewski, M'lita Dolores, Ray Kay, and Betty Bush, Peter Gawthorne, Dainty Doris, John Luxton, the Buchanans, Marosi, Gleesome Singers, Katrina and Joan, Priddee, Okito Ristori

MR. JULIUS DAREWSKI.

(*Photo, Campbell Gray.*

and Partner, Madeline Harrison, and Ted Marcelle. He is also the exclusive booking representative for the "Arcadia" and Happy Valley, Southend-on-Sea. Mr. Julius Darewski is, of course, no novice in the agency business, and he will be remembered under the name of Dawson as having been associated with the Harry Day Agency for some years. He was also general and booking manager for Mr. Ernest C. Rolls for many years. Julius is at present in negotiation with a well-known film company for supplying artists, and is also concluding an arrangement with a leading gramophone company to supply artists for recording.

"NAT NOBODY."

Dramatic Sketch, by Peter Gawthorne, Produced at the Manchester Hippodrome on Monday, May 17.

Nat Nobody .... Mr. Peter Gawthorne
Swordmaker .. Mr. Townsend Whitley
Apprentice ..... Mr. Alec Snowden
Sir Roland Wallingford
Mr. Valentine O'Connor

The setting of "Nat Nobody" is the interior of a swordmaker's forge in mediæval times, and the story is one of revenge. The name of the central character indicates a man of mysterious and interesting personality, who has become attached to the neighbourhood, but who, in consequence of his facility in teaching apprentices and others the art of fencing, is suspected by the authorities of aiding certain lawless doings, which bid fair to recoil upon his head. Sir Roland Wallingford, a man of ill repute, warns the swordmaker to have no intercourse with Nat, but this does not interfere between the friendship of the two, and Nat eventually confides to the swordmaker the tragedy of his life. Up to this point Nat and Sir Roland have not appeared face to face, and it transpires that the latter is the villain who, during Nat's absence at the wars, was responsible for the betrayal and suicide of the latter's sister. The climax is a mortal duel between Nat and Sir Roland, and the latter is killed.

The sketch is well written, and has musical relief in the shape of two fine songs, "Gentlemen of Horse" and "The Song of the Sword," which are rendered in gallant style by Mr. Peter Gawthorne, who makes a manly and picturesque Nat. A dignified and effective Sir Roland Wallingford is presented by Mr. Valentine O'Connor; the swordmaker is played very naturally by Mr. Townsend Whitley; and an excellent piece of character-acting is given by Mr. Alec Snowden. The piece was well received, and provides a welcome change of atmosphere from the usual variety fare.

Ben Albert's Lost Watch.

Ben Albert, who was appearing at Collins's last week, had the misfortune to lose his watch, which was attached to a strap chain. Ben will be glad of any information that will lead to its recovery. He is at the Hippo., Lewisham, this week.

A CLEVER DOUBLE TURN.

FRANK NOLAN AND LOUIS HOLT.

A new and clever double turn, Nolan and Holt, appeared with much success at the Victoria Palace last week. This combination is the result of what one might describe as a happy accident. When appearing in a concert party, Frank Nolan and Louis Holt joined forces one evening for a joke. Cute observers who saw the advantages which might accrue from the combination of such contrasting personalities decided, however, that the joke was not without its point, and, yielding to outside pressure, Frank and Louis went into partnership, with the happiest results.

The reason for their success is patent to all observers. Frank Nolan, the big Irishman, and Louis Holt, the dapper little Yorkshireman, together present a contrast of styles which cannot fail to be effective. Among the wise lookers-on were that talented pair R. P. Weston and Bert Lee, and the rest was easy. Equipped with four top-notch numbers from the pens of these witty worthies, Nolan and Holt went like hot cakes at the Victoria Palace.

Frank Nolan is the son of Mr. Joseph Nolan, late M.P. for South Louth, and the great adherent of the Nationalist cause. He has an attractive tenor voice. Louis Holt, who hails from Bradford, the home of many of our star artists, is a clever pianist, and has a pleasing baritone. They are at Glasgow this week, and are, we understand, coming to the London Coliseum shortly. The Stoll Tour and the Gulliver Circuit are also, it is said, included in their travels.

"THE WHIRLIGIG."

NEW EDITION.

A new edition of the beautiful and amusing revue, "The Whirligig," was given at the Palace on Monday night, when Miss Violet Loraine and Mr. Billy Merson were included in the cast. One of the best things in the show is the burlesque of "The Man Who Came Back," under the title of "The Man Who Caned Her Back." It is amusingly written and exceedingly well acted by Mr. Merson and Miss Loraine in the principal parts. Another witty idea is "New Year's Eve," the fun of which needs to be seen to be appreciated to the full. Miss Loraine is splendid as the elegant lady who unknowingly confides her dreadful past all unsuspectingly to Mr. Merson, the Cockney burglar, who adapts it to his own uses very cleverly. Mr. Jack Morrison was good as the husband.

One of the best numbers is Miss Loraine's song, "A Gipsy Warned Me," for which she was recalled several times. Mr. Merson has a typical Merson number in "Days of Old," in which he makes amusing business out of his suit of armour. Both artists also appear in a burlesque of Madame Butterfly.

Mr. Charles Withers has added another scene to his travesty, "For Pity's Sake," and the whole of this wonderful show is a laugh from beginning to end. Most of the spectacular scenes are retained, including the beautifully dressed "Temple of Chance." Other enjoyable items are provided by Mr. Billy Leonard, Miss Anita Elson, Mr. Jack Morrison, Miss Dorma Leigh, and the Palace Girls.

Re THE PALACE THEATRE, MANCHESTER.

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THE LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

THE COLISEUM.

In the excellent programme provided at this premier Stoll house this week are, as usual, several new items. Will Evans' startling spoof melodrama, "The Assassin," the well-worked-up excitement of which all ends in autograph-hunting we described last week. Suffice it to say that the piece now goes very briskly, and the clever acting of Mr. Frederick Ross as the assassin-haunted actor, Gerald, and Miss Lillian Hill as his wife, with song, should ensure a long run for this novel and elaborate hoax. Wilkie Bard is a great favourite with Coliseum audiences, and his amusing "Sentry Go" ditty of the rustic son of Mars who doesn't know the war is over, and of "the cleaner" who wants to become a revue artist, are keenly enjoyed and loudly applauded. Miss Cecilia Loftus gave "The Mummy Hobble" and many clever imitations, one of her best essays being the Bransby Williams' excerpt and "The Kissing Duet," by Courtice Pounds and Eileen D'Orme, also her representation of Lily Brayton. Her "Irene" two-step was played by the orchestra.

The Q's gave their well-known humorous vocal entertainment, which was highly appreciated, and the Two Anartos (Arthur and Lawrence) are very popular in their farcical fishing duologue, "To-morrow Will Be Friday." Gaston Palmer is a highly-finished, artistic juggler, and his polished and graceful style is eminently pleasing.

Young Eric Fogg's musical intermission, "Sea Sheen," an idyll of great merit, interpreted by the fine Coliseum orchestra, as included in Sir Oswald Stoll's "Young British Composers' Series," is both original and melodious. Tamara Gamsakourdia, Alexandre Demidoff, and Wassilie Orloff, from the Grand Theatre, Moscow, contribute an exquisitely graceful and fantastic ballet in one act, "Arlequinade," or "Pierrot's Dream," with alternately wild and dreamy cadences. The syncopated orchestra, under the direction of Will Marion Cook, brings the proceedings to a spirited close.

THE PALLADIUM.

Mr. Harry Weldon is one of the principal laughter-makers at the Palladium this week, and his droll contributions were received with the usual heartiness. Miss Ruth Vincent delighted all with her brilliant and artistic singing of three numbers. Mr. Albert Whelan, in addition to singing four new songs in his customary distinctive style, further delighted the audience with some humorously told stories and a clever musical monologue, and his act was very popular.

Miss June Mills is a comedienne with a rich sense of humour and a distinct personality in both song and dance. Her assistant, Wm. Innes, is possessed of a fine bass voice, which he uses to advantage. Mr. Percy Honri and his concertina received a hearty welcome, as did Mr. Laddie Cliff with his two songs and his quaint and eccentric dancing. George Lashwood, immaculately dressed, fully deserved the applause which rewarded his two numbers and the clever business accompanying them. Elsie and Louise De Winne, in an artistic acrobatic act; Daly and Healy, in a clever song and dance medley; Fred Lake and Tom Barrasford, with some vivacious vocalism; and the Six Heraldos, a troupe of daring acrobats, complete the first-class entertainment.

HOLBORN EMPIRE.

Mr. Harry Thurston and company head the bill here this week. That very human character sketch, "Lucky Old Bill," is an excellent medium for Mr. Thurston and his companions to exploit their fun, and they met with the heartiest of greetings. Miss Betty Barclay and Mr. George Glover give their charming musical act with the greatest success, the clever duo being recalled at the conclusion of their turn. Miss Mollie Butler, described as a dialect comedienne, gave a dramatic little recitation which tells of how a young mother sacrifices her soul in a futile endeavour to obtain necessaries for her dying child, and also another sketch in lighter vein; and Ed. J. Baisden as a loquacious cyclist causes any amount of fun.

A dancing act of exquisite grace is that contributed by the Misses Zelda and Freda Jensen, a couple of chastely attired and charming girls, who deservedly meet with an ovation at the conclusion of their turn; Madeleine Loys, the French operatic star, gives with fine effect a couple of songs; and Naughton and Gold, in addition to some original cross-talk, execute a dance which is not only agile, but extremely humorous, and which is received with a storm of applause, the performers being recalled again and again. Miss Ruth Astor, who deputised, gave some remarkably clever impressions of prominent stage people, which included Miss Ada Reeve, Miss Patrick Campbell, and Miss Mary Nash, the latter in the dramatic Dope scene from "The Man Who Came Back"; and Mr. George French, with a couple of capital songs, and the Littlefields, in a clever wire act, complete the bill.

EUSTON PALACE.

Pleasant memories of former musical comedy successes are recalled by Mr. J. B. Taylor's musical fantasy, "Dream Stars," which he is producing this week at the Euston. "The Man" (Mr. Harry Weste) is meditating over the girls of yesterday, and lo! shades of the past—the maiden of "Veronique" with her swing song, the little Jap of "The Geisha," and Dolores of "Florodora" appear in succession to bring back some of those delicious melodies that are now almost numbered amongst the classics. They disappear, to be followed by the maid of to-day, epitomised by "Miss Jazz," a mad, glad, wild figure in a tearing haste, and perhaps, the man thinks this is really the sort of girl he loves after all. It is a charming trifle, conceived on agreeably novel lines and arranged by Laddie Cliff; and it gives Mr. Henry Weste and Mesdames Kathleen Brett, Molly Mackay, and Galatea Thorpe plenty of scope for a display of their vocal and histrionic talents. A most encouraging reception was accorded them.

Charles Rich, the popular comedian and raconteur, soon has the house in hearty laughter with his droll comments, and particularly his up-to-date parody on "Excelsior," in which he pillories the profiteer much to the enjoyment of his audience. The Gotham Comedy Girls are a quartette of clever comedienne-vocalists, who wisely do not overdo the fooling business. Their harmonised part-singing is most delightful. Yet another musical turn is that of Ernest Scebold and Ruby Mallory, who are appearing in an original song-scena entitled "An Artist's Romance." The former is the possessor of a powerful and well-trained baritone voice that was heard to great advantage in Hadyn Wood's "Wonderful World of Romance."

The singing and dancing Scots' scena of the Royal Crests is a spirited affair that on Monday evening aroused the house to great enthusiasm. Harry Shiels and his company in their amusing sketch, "Empties"—another "Old Bill" episode, where that worthy old gentleman is seen "in another fix"—was also tremendously popular. The fine programme is completed by Jock Mackay, the famous Scotch comedian, and Frank Keith.

VICTORIA PALACE.

Southwood, his Pink Lady, and a piano are at the Victoria Palace this week in a bright mélange of popular songs of to-day and yester-year. Both Southwood and his sweet brunette assistant are excellent vocalists, and a special word of praise is due to this couple for the artistic setting of their act. Mr. Herbert Lee, who followed, is a neat light comedian with three capital numbers. All these were delivered in a brisk manner, which quickly endeared him to the audience. Incidentally, Mr. Lee disclosed the secret of the much-paragraphed American invasion of our shores in a song with the significant refrain that "Now U.S.A. is D-r-y, I'm Not Going Home." Those pastmasters of the art of rapid cross-talk, the Brothers O'Gorman, created a deal of amusement during their occupancy of the stage. The spontaneous burst of applause which followed their agile, simultaneous dancing was a fitting tribute to their abilities in this direction.

The favourable verdict passed upon Burr and Hope's new and magnificent scena, "Pharaoh," at its production at Kilburn recently was more than endorsed by Pimlico patrons on Monday. Its picturesque setting, which evoked a burst of applause at its first unfolding, the telling lines with which the scena is plentifully endowed, and, above all, the effective vocalisation of William Burr and Daphne Hope, all contributed to an undoubted success. Miss Lillie Lassah, the debonair male impersonator, made excellent capital out of two bright and mellifluous numbers, "Gay Paree" and "We're All Alive and Well," and she was heartily applauded.

Miss Cicely Courtneidge is presenting three cameos by Messrs. Jack Hulbert, Harold Simpson, and Philip Braham. The first is a pointed little ditty, "I Didn't Understand," in which Miss Courtneidge makes effective play with a parasol. Further evidence of her versatility is afforded in a Cockney scena, "I Can't Find a 'Ome, Sweet 'Ome," and a racing stable cameo, wherein Miss Courtneidge is capably assisted by Miss Evelyn Trevor and Mr. Charles Denier Warren.

Mr. Arthur Prince and "Jim" come in for a vociferous reception. The Four Original Storks, in their thrilling display of strength, and Wallie Pearce, a neat exponent of the art of tripping the light fantastic, complete.

NEW CROSS EMPIRE.

Mr. Pierre Cohen, the new manager at the New Cross Empire, has certainly the happy knack of combining full houses and appreciative audiences for the attractive and varied fare he puts before them. This week's bill includes the Two Cures, the original Coster Kids, who give a very chic little show, and in full "pearlies" and "fevvers" earn well-merited applause for their unique dancing and singing. Emerson and Gilbert, otherwise the Dago and his black friend, give an original act, their oddities creating roars of laughter. Vasco, who is also here, gave his musical interlude in the rôle of the mad musician. Almost every description of instrument known—and unknown—is used most skilfully by him, to the delight of his hearers. T. B. Dunville, the Two Bobs (who are bigger favourites than ever here), Harry Taft, and Constance Risdon and her brother, with Bonando and Francis and the Four Mackwells supplying many gymnastic thrills, help to make up a bill which is delighting the habitués of this popular South London house of entertainment.

POPLAR HIPPODROME.

There is an excellent programme at the Poplar Hippodrome this week. Syd Moorhouse's birdlike whistling and his rendering of "The City of Laughter" received well-deserved applause. Malcolm Scott, "the woman who knows," is as genial and topical as ever, and was responsible for much merriment. Another great success was Dainty Doris, whose songs, "Bye-and-Bye" and "Mamie o' Mine," were both prettily rendered, and were followed by a neat and effective dance.

Bete Stella was also very popular, and her impersonation of Elsie Janis in "Give Me the Moonlight" met with a hearty reception.

Gilday and Fox, the Hebrew comedians who can sing, were in capital form, and kept everyone entertained with their parodies on up-to-date choruses and their amusing medley. Raie and Rosie Walters, both daintily attired and looking very chic, found great favour with their ragtime songs, and their harmonising was loudly acclaimed. Episodes in the office of a tramway company were excellently portrayed by Ernie Whitmer and a comedienne, their performance being heartily applauded; and Will Collinson and company presented their latest burlesque, "Sweeping a Chimney," to the accompaniment of hearty laughter. Duncan and Godfrey were out of the bill on Monday.

"TOO MANY WIVES."

Farcical Comedy Sketch, by George Arthurs, Produced at the Hammersmith Palace, on Monday, May 17.

Mr. George Arthur's capital farcical sketch, "Too Many Wives," was played in just the right spirit by Mr. N. Carter Slaughter's Company, and met with a hearty reception. The plot runs as follows: Tristram Wilberforce had attended a Jazz dance some time ago, and when there had received a blow on the head from a champagne bottle, which causes him complete loss of memory. When the scene opens, he has just been examined by Dr. Foster, who tells him that, although quite fit in health, only a shock will restore his memory. The servant suggests to Tristram that perhaps during the month he was away he might have got married, and soon afterwards a charming young lady enters, who says she was married to him a fortnight previously at Hastings. Then Pepita, a fierce Spanish lady, enters, and declares that Tristram married her the week previously in Paris. Again the bell rings, and an elderly lady rushes in and declares she was wedded to Tristram three weeks ago at Matlock. Her embraces have the effect of restoring Tristram's memory, and he now knows that he spent the month at Brighton. Very angry, Tristram threatens to send for the police, but the ladies then tell him they were sent by Dr. Foster, who, taking off his wig, declares it is a perfect cure.

The all-important part of Tristram Wilberforce was cleverly played by Mr. N. C. Slaughter; Dr. Chas. Foster was capitally enacted by Mr. Wyn Weaver; Monsie, a flapper, was played in a very attractive manner by Miss Ena Wregg, while Miss Winefred Griffith gave a powerful rendering of Pepita, a Spanish girl, Miss Stella Camphie being excellent as Ellen, a maidservant.

"SAILOR LAD" AT PENGE.

Mr. Lew Lake's new edition of "Sailor Lad" was seen at Penge Empire on Monday, and it can be asserted at once that it was a big success. Mr. Clifford Rean's book deals with all-absorbing love interests, and adventures with German spies, and submarines. Pervading the whole atmosphere of the play, too, is the breath of sea air, that one is inclined to say with Mr. Joe Elvin, "Ain't it salty?" Mr. Elvin himself is a big attraction as Sim Popple—he has given us nothing so humorous as his clever comedy work in the part of the greasy ship's engineer. Mr. Ben George is a fine manly skipper, and sings well, particularly in the "Two Eyes of Blue" duet with Miss Molly Wells, as dainty as you please as Lilian Tressiger. Miss Wells also renders exquisitely "A Little Bit of Love," and other numbers. Some excellent comedy comes from Miss Clara Reid as Mrs. Tuttlebee, and her song, "A Dainty Bit of Lace," is a good number. The Captain Fairstone of Mr. Herbert Pearson and the Petty Officer of Mr. Frank Mayban are both capital studies, and Miss Valerie Crespin as a German spy acts cleverly, as do Mr. Walter Wilby and Mr. Ernest Montefiore, both of them sinister studies. Smaller parts are all well played, and Wallace Orton's petty officers and May McGuffin's fisher girls, as well as a good-looking and excellent singing chorus, add to the general success.

"PATCHES."

Revue, Book, and Lyrics by Greatrex Newman, Music by H. B. Hedley and E. Melville, Produced at the Empire, Bristol, on May 10.

This new revue, which is in 12 scenes, or "patches," is very picturesquely staged and handsomely dressed. Clever and versatile Miss Kitty Colyer has many attractive numbers, and her work throughout is of great value to the production; and Jimmie Leslie, the chief fun-maker, has many opportunities for exploiting his humour. He is ably supported by Harry Gould, who has few equals as a "knut," and the couple keep the house in continuous laughter whenever they are on the stage.

In the second "patch," the visit to a "demobbed doctor," we are treated to some capital fooling by Jimmie Leslie as a patient. The business in "a beauty parlour," in which Harry Gould appears as a customer, and George Hughes as a barber, is very humorous. An Eastern scene, a melo-drama, cleverly burlesqued by song and dance, also Poppyland, are among many other noteworthy features. The chorus is clever and well trained. Eric Masters is a fine baritone, and was heartily applauded for all his songs, and the same can be said of Miss Dorothy Roseveare and Miss Katie Marsh. The Royal Breconia Singers are a well-balanced company, the soloists being very successful. The staging is in the expert hands of Mr. Charles Henry. The arrangement of the dances has been entrusted to Mr. Laddie Cliff, and the whole production is under the personal supervision of Mr. Harry Day himself.

NEW ACTS OF THE WEEK.

GRANT-CONNER TRIO.

The Grant-Conner Trio achieved great success at the Putney Hippodrome last week, and much applause greeted their clever performance. The male member has a remarkably fine powerful voice, which is heard to advantage in "The Making of a Man," and the lady in the case is equally facile of expression at the piano or as a vocalist. The youthful member of the combination is a great favourite with his fiddling, especially the Highland fling with which he finishes, scoring a big hit. As artistic musical entertainers, the Grant-Conner Trio are sure of a hearty welcome.

MISS VICTORIA CARMEN.

Miss Victoria Carmen is very properly described as "an artist of charm," and Stratford Empire this week is lucky in securing her in some delightful new song studies and dainty dances. In her new act she has the assistance of Little Nellie Else, a winsome maid of tender years, who played with Miss Carmen in pantomime at Bradford. When Miss Victoria Carmen makes her exit for change of costume, on steps Miss Else as an exact replica, not only in dress, but in the charming mannerisms of her sponsor, and so charmingly does she mimic her elder in her childish fashion that the breaks in the presentations come as a pleasing surprise. "On the Farm" is the first song, and in this Miss Carmen wears a wonderful hand-painted Paris creation. "In Dahomey" is another capital item, but probably "Fairy Butterfly" is the choicest tit-bit of the series. Special music has been provided by Herman Finck, the scenery is by John Tiller, of Manchester, and the costumes by Alias.

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"THE ERA" FILM SECTION

TOPICS OF THE TRADE.

MAKE-UP FOR THE FILMS.

THE EFFECTS OF LIGHTING.

A fault common to many British pictures in the past was a certain flatness of effect in the staging, and hardness in the make-up of the players, due largely to the difference between British and American methods of lighting.

Under the lighting systems current in many of the studios, make-up has sometimes proved rather an awkward matter for players, especially those who have come fresh to the screen from the stage. The usual base has been a yellow grease-paint, and it remains useful, of course, under certain conditions. But in the more advanced studios, where the best imported American lighting plant is available, and, with it, the latest ideas as to scenic depth and tone-values, the more usual make-up for the average type of film-actress is a pale pink grease-paint, with pink face-powder as a softener, blue being sparingly employed round the eyes; though, of course, it must be said that there can be no rigid rules for screen make-up.

POINTS FOR CONSIDERATION.

The texture of the skin has always to be taken into account. Each type calls for special treatment. Local conditions of light and atmosphere in the open; lighting resources in the studio; the requirements of the story; the contrasts revealed by the association of groups of players; all these are points that have to be taken into consideration by players and director; and the problems of make-up, like those of lighting—and with which they often go hand-in-hand—are complex to a degree, and ever fresh in their variety. Frequent experiment is often the only way to success; and the final word must necessarily rest with a keenly artistic and widely experienced director.

As to lighting, with the more advanced methods in force in certain Americanised studios, much greater depth and roundness is given to interior scenes, and a softer, more natural and pleasing appearance secured for the faces of the artists, than has usually been possible in the average British production. Lighting is, indeed, a question rich in difficulties and surprises, owing to atmospheric and other variations found in different studios, and players will do well to study the subject of make-up very closely, with a view to the special requirements of the camera, and the lighting methods of the particular studio in which they are to work. Above all, they should try to realise the ideas of the director under whose guidance they are to appear on the screen.

ROUND ABOUT FILMLAND.

Ideal Activities—Film Actor and Heavy-Weight Champion—New Hepworth Picture.

Ideal Films.

In order to cope with the constantly growing demand for its productions, the Ideal Film Renting Co. has arranged for a large augmentation of its capital, which will enable it to give fuller scope to its activities, and permit of "Ideal" pictures being produced on a much more extensive scale. The "Ideal" already possesses a large studio at Bistree, one of the best equipped in the world, and at this moment as many as 3 full-length feature pictures are being produced there simultaneously in addition to other subjects. A pioneer in the production of high-class British pictures, the firm has been responsible for the filming of many classics. In accordance with the usual procedure, it is now going into voluntary liquidation, and a new company is being registered under the title of "Ideal Films, Ltd." A large batch of new productions will be announced by it shortly.

"The Aftermath."

A unique theme has been chosen by the Anglo-Hollandia Film Co. for a production on a big scale. Entitled "The Aftermath," it deals in dramatic fashion with the after-effects of the war, comparisons being drawn by the interspersion of allegorical studies, proving the inevitable aftermath of Armageddon. The result of greed, individually and nationally, is also shown, allegorically and in a simple modern story. "The Aftermath" is from an original scenario by Mr. B. E. Doxat-Pratt, who is also the producer, and British artists will be featured.

"J'Accuse."

We hear that the wonderful Pathé film, "J'Accuse," will be shown at the Philharmonic Hall for four weeks, starting on Monday.

Capt. Gordon Coghill.

Advices received from Australia by I. B. Davidson indicate that Capt. Gordon Coghill, D.S.O., M.C., will shortly return to England. The gallant soldier played a successful part, in which he appears in the prize ring, in the new Granger play, "The Way of the World." The feather-weight champion of Australia, Davidson says "that Coghill acts as well as he fights." So impressed was he with the possibilities of the screen, that Coghill has decided, after he has had a hurried holiday in Australia, to appear again before the camera in a new play that A. E. Coleby has ready for him.

"—And the Children Pay."

This film was shown to the trade at the London Pavilion recently, and, judging by the enthusiasm it created and the many eulogistic comments made, the proprietors, the Anchor Film Co., are assured of a great success. Mrs. H. A. L. Fisher, wife of the Minister of Education, in a telling speech addressed the audience on behalf of the National Council for the Unmarried Mother and her Child, who together with the National Baby Week Council have given their unqualified approval to the film.

"The Amazing Quest of Mr. Ernest Bliss."

Henry Edwards has just completed work on "The Amazing Quest of Mr. Ernest Bliss," a screen adaptation of a series of stories written by E. Phillips Oppenheim and in which he also creates the rôle of Ernest Bliss—millionaire.

Among the many unique and interesting scenes which will be included in the picture is one showing Henry Edwards in the guise of a London 'bus driver, piloting a Tilling-Stevens' 'bus through a veritable maze of traffic down Regent-street. This incident is only one of many equally interesting and unusual ones. Chrissie White plays the rôle of Francis.

"Sunken Rocks."

Picture-goers will soon have an opportunity of viewing a new Hepworth film, for "Sunken Rocks," produced by Cecil M. Hepworth, from the story by E. Temple Thurston, will be exhibited in the picture theatres on and after June 14. That popular little lady, Alma Taylor, is the heroine of the story, and James Carew and Gerald Ames have also important rôles.

"Fate's Plaything."

Still another well-known novel has been adapted for the Silent stage—namely, Mrs. W. C. F. Harding's "Oranges and Lemons," which has been given the screen title of "Fate's Plaything." It will be acted by an all-British company, with Miss Constance Worth as leading lady. It will be released by Butcher's Film Service, Ltd., the early part of next year.

"Her Son."

The trade show of the Broadwest film, "Her Son," will be held by the Walturdaw Company at the London Pavilion on June 9, and not at the Alhambra, as previously stated.

"The Way of the World."

"The Way of the World" is a new Granger play that has been produced at the I. B. Davidson studios, the scenario and producing having been placed in the capable hands of A. E. Coleby, who also takes a leading part in the film. The story centres largely around the activities of Capt. Gordon Coghill, D.S.O., M.C., the Australian heavy-weight champion. This well-known boxer, who came to Europe with the Australian Forces, gives some wonderful exhibitions of his prowess in surroundings that are an exact model of the National Sporting Club. Babs Ronald plays a leading part in this new Granger play. One pathetic scene shows the juvenile star in an accident upon a country road. The actual scene was "shot" in Epping Forest. Subsequently a hospital interior, an exact reproduction of one of the wards of St. Thomas' Hospital, London, is shown.

TRADE SHOWS OF THE WEEK.

By "THE ERA" SPECIAL REVIEWERS.

"ON WITH THE MOTLEY."

A STORY OF THE RING WITH A TRAGIC CONCLUSION.

Production ..... V.E.I.
Stars ..... Lucian Molinare and Soava Gallone
Type ..... Drama
Length ..... Five Reels
Distributors ..... L.I.F.T.

An artistically produced screen tragedy, "On With the Motley" possesses a story which combines originality with strength, and sustains its interest until the end. The circus performance introduced is a complete entertainment in itself. Lucian Molinare and Soava Gallone are artists of remarkable ability; they take the utmost advantage of the excellent opportunities presented, and portray sympathetically their respective rôles. Suspecting her mother and stepfather of being responsible for her beloved father's death, the murdered man's sorrowing daughter plans to produce a play written round the tragedy Rendered almost mad by her grief, and under the belief that her stepfather is affected by the performance, she stabs him. Before her trial evidence is forthcoming concerning her father's disreputable life and his death at the hands of a village boy. Broken in spirit by her accusing conscience, the girl, after her acquittal, is befriended by a clown of a famous circus, and later she herself wins fame in the ring. Time after time happiness seems within her grasp, but ever in her mind is the reminder of her crime. At length, when the elusive phantom of happiness is about to become a reality, she realises the futility of trying to forget, and before her lover's eyes leaps to death from the roof of the circus.

* * *

"THE BLACK SPIDER."

INNOCENT GIRL'S JOKE NEARLY RESULTS IN DISASTER.

Production ..... B. & C.
Type ..... Drama
Star ..... Lydia Kyasht
Length ..... Five Reels
Distributors ..... L.I.F.T.

Carefully produced, and with Monte Carlo as its beautiful background, "The Black Spider" is an entertaining mystery film. Miss Lydia Kyasht acts with grace and distinction as the heroine, while excellent support comes from Bertram Burleigh, Ronald Colman, and other well-known artists. The story turns upon the identity of a mysterious person known as "The Black Spider," who, with extraordinary daring, relieves various hotel guests of their valuables. Most of the characters seem to be suspected before the finish, but eventually the guilty one, a young French count, is brought to book. Complications arise through the foolishness of the heroine, who for a joke steals her guardian's necklace. She finds it a difficult task to convince her friends of her innocence, but the capture of the real thief brings the story to a satisfactory finish.

* * *

"ALIAS MARY BROWN."

A SCHOOLBOY'S REVENGE.

Production ..... Western Import
Star ..... Pauline Starke
Type ..... Drama
Length ..... Five Parts
Release ..... Feb. 14.

Dick, a college youth, brought up in the lap of luxury, finds himself, on the death of his father, heir to nothing but his parent's debts. He appeals to the creditors to save him sufficient to support his invalid mother until such time as he can earn enough for the purpose—but the appeal falls on deaf ears. The mother dying, Dick hits upon a plan to get even with the harsh men who had demanded their "pound of flesh." Assuming female attire he contrives to get employment as a girl secretary to each of them, and robs them all in turn. During his adventures he meets a demure little woman who has run away from home, and it is through her good nature that he sees the error of his ways before it is too late. The stolen goods are returned, and Dick and his friend settle down to a closer relationship. The piece owes much to the interpretation of the leading parts, which were excellently handled.

* * *

"THE DAY OF JUDGMENT."

TERRIBLE DREAM RESPONSIBLE FOR SELFISH MAN'S TRANSFORMATION.

Type ..... Drama
Star ..... Olaf Fonss
Length ..... Five Reels
Distributors ..... Shadow Plays

"The Day of Judgment" is a strong original subject, Olaf Fonss's study of a grasping and relentless profiteer being a very fine and powerful one. Photography and settings are good, and the entire production reflects much credit on all concerned, many of the scenes being very striking and impressive, the dream ones being cleverly done. Baron Sonnington, known to his employees as the "Tiger," is a financial magnate who allows no one to hamper him in his climb to fame. After deserting his wife he elopes with the daughter of a banker. His latest victim, Vane, a once prosperous young business man, attempts the life of his persecutor, and is thrown into prison. The Tiger refuses to help the man's wife and child, and, falling asleep in his sanctum, dreams that he dies and is taken by the Angel of Death to face his Maker. During the journey he views with horror his many terrible deeds, and, awakening, determines to atone for his past by showing consideration and kindness to his fellow men.

* * *

"SOME BRIDE."

JEALOUS HUSBAND NO MATCH FOR FLIGHTY WIFE.

Production ..... Metro
Type ..... Comedy
Star ..... Viola Dana
Length ..... 5 Reels
Distributors ..... W. & F.

"Some Bride" proved to be an ideal vehicle for the clever acting of Viola Dana, who, endowed with beauty and personality, romps gaily through the amusing story. Patricia Morley's tendency to flirt with every man she meets arouses the jealousy of her newly captured husband, who, tired of playing second fiddle during the honeymoon, departs with the idea of obtaining a divorce. Pat, however, feigns illness, and Henry visits the nursing home where the "dying one" is discovered ministering to the needs of Billy Patton, her husband's own lawyer. Henry again comes under the influence of his bride's charming wiles, and he agrees to re-start housekeeping, with Patten as the first guest. But soon Henry's jealousy is once more aroused, and he seeks the aid of a detective agency. The lady sleuth engaged happens to be a friend of Pat's, and Henry's downfall is soon brought about. A compromising position with his own detective as the woman in the case does the trick, and poor Henry is compelled to listen to Pat's indignant denunciation of his "jealous mania," and has to admit defeat.

* * *

"HIS WIFE'S FRIEND."

CLEVER MYSTERY DRAMA.

Production ..... Thos. Ince
Star ..... Dorothy Dalton
Type ..... Drama
Length ..... Four Reels
Distributors ..... Famous-Lasky

Sir Martin Grimwood, the elderly husband of Lady Marion, consistently neglects his wife, and is not even jealous when her friend, John Heritage, comes to visit them. Sir Martin is murdered, and the circumstantial evidence points to John Heritage as the culprit. The solving of the mystery, and confession of the real criminal, give rise to several intensely dramatic and clever situations before the happy ending of the story is reached. Miss Dorothy Dalton has a part which admirably suits her dramatic abilities in the character of Lady Marion, and is supported by an excellent cast. The picture is well produced, and the mystery surrounding the murder so cleverly engineered that only the smartest amateur detectives amongst the audience will anticipate the correct solution.

* * *

"SHE LOVES AND LIES."

WIFE PLAYS DUAL ROLE IN HUSBAND'S LIFE.

Production ..... Select
Type ..... Comedy
Star ..... Norma Talmadge
Length ..... Five Reels
Distributors ..... Walturdaw's

Starring Norma Talmadge in a triple rôle, "She Loves and Lies" is an amusing story of a girl's attempt to win a husband. The fascinating star does her usual excellent work, and is ably assisted by Conway Tearle and a clever cast. Marie Callender will inherit a fortune if she marries the man of her choice. The latter turns up in the person of Ernest Lismore, who, in addition to not knowing his fair admirer, is hampered by lack of money. Marie, disguised as an elderly lady, visits Lismore and offers him a chance to marry her and regain his wealth. Purely a business arrangement, the marriage goes smoothly along till Ernest meets and loves June Days, a fascinating little artist. From thence onwards complications ensue, till Ernest makes the startling discovery that June is really his own wife minus her grey wig and spectacles.

* * *

"THIRTEENTH COMMANDMENT."

THOU SHALT NOT SPEND MORE THAN THOU EARN'ST.

Production ..... Paramount Artcraft
Star ..... Ethel Clayton
Type ..... Comedy-Drama
Length ..... Four Reels
Distributors ..... Famous-Lasky

This picture enables Miss Ethel Clayton to give a vivid and clever portraiture of Daphne Kip, a young girl brought up by an extravagant mother. Daphne is engaged to be married, and is purchasing a trousseau much beyond her family's means. Realising the danger into which she is running, she turns over a new leaf and refuses to marry until she herself is earning sufficient to support herself without dependance on her future husband. Her methods of attaining her object are illustrated by some clever situations, and the picture finishes on a happy note. The lighting and photography both reach a high standard.

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"THE ERA" FILM SECTION

CINEMATOGRAPH EXHIBITORS' ASSOCIATION.

LONDON AND HOME COUNTIES BRANCH.

A general meeting of the London and Home Counties Branch of the Cinematograph Exhibitors' Association was held at the Trans-Atlantic Film Company's private theatre (by kind permission of J. D. Tippett), on Tuesday, May 11. E. R. Goodwin (chairman) explained that by a new rule of the Association the annual general meeting of the branch could not take place till next January, but the officers had decided, as they were only appointed for a year, to resign.

Election of Officers.

F. R. Goodwin resigned from the position of chairman, but did not offer himself for re-election. S. Boyle Lawrence proposed, and J. T. Hallinan seconded, that W. H. Percy be elected chairman for the year. There being no other nominations, the resolution was put and carried unanimously.

Matt. Raymond proposed E. M. Barker for the position of vice-chairman, and F. Theobalds seconded the proposition.

Mr. F. R. Goodwin stated that he felt he must propose the retiring secretary, E. W. P. Peall, for the position. He considered the position should be offered to him in view of the large amount of work he had done for the Association, although he would have welcomed Mr. Barker. G. A. E. Porter seconded. E. M. Barker stated that under the circumstances he would, if his proposer and seconder would allow him, withdraw in favour of E. W. P. Peall. The proposer and seconder of E. M. Barker agreeing, E. W. P. Peall was unanimously elected vice-chairman.

On the proposition of Matt. Raymond, seconded by R. Davis, A. J. Gale was unanimously re-elected hon. treasurer.

F. R. Goodwin stated that as E. W. P. Peall, the retiring secretary, did not offer himself for re-election, he had endeavoured to find someone to fill his place, and submitted names for the consideration of the meeting. After considerable discussion Matt. Raymond offered to undertake the duties, A. Taylor to act as his assistant. This was unanimously agreed to.

In Aid of War Memorial.

A member reported that the Middlesex County Council had asked theatres to give a special performance in aid of war memorials. It was resolved that a letter be sent to all members in Middlesex advising them to offer the proceeds of a Sunday performance.

Electrical Trades Union.

In accordance with the agreed wages, etc., of operators, the following were elected to form a sub-committee to meet the union: Matt. Raymond, J. W. Barber, E. M. Barker, chairman, vice-chairman, with J. C. Clavering as reserve.

Amalgamated Musicians' Union.

E. W. P. Peall reported that he had received a letter stating Mr. J. B. Williams would be away until the end of the month, so the meeting had not taken place.

National Association of Theatrical Employees.

E. W. P. Peall submitted a letter from the secretary asking the branch to appoint representatives to meet them. After considerable discussion it was resolved that the authority to the executive be not given.

L.C.C. Advertising Evening Education.

It was resolved that all members be advised to assist the L.C.C. Education Authorities by exhibition of slides on their screens.

General.

A member asked the chairman if it would not be possible to arrange a weekly meeting of the branch, and the chairman promised to give this matter consideration.

In reply to questions by members, the chairman stated the committee would consider the increased prices of films, and that he understood the film selection would be in future sent to members earlier.

LEICESTER BRANCH.

Mr. F. D. Gray (Olympia) presided over a meeting of the Leicester Branch of the C.E.A. on Wednesday at Messrs. Deacon's, accountants, Corridor-chambers, Market-place, when there was a capital attendance of members.

Hon. Membership.

Mr. Philip Joseph, the hon. secretary, reported that a reply had been received from the General Secretary in answer to his question as to whether two late members who had left the business could be legally elected as hon. members. It appeared from the answer received that any person, whether he was connected with the industry or not, could be elected an hon. member if the branch thought it so desirable. An hon. member was entitled to be summoned to all meetings and to speak on any matter brought before a meeting, but had not the power to vote. A late member could not claim membership, and it was entirely in the hands of the branch to withdraw the privilege of such hon. membership if it thought it was desirable. The branch decided to fix a fee of one guinea for such hon. membership.

Musicians' Salaries.

Mr. Harry Allen, the secretary of the local branch of A.M.U., who was accompanied by Mr. Sharpe, was then introduced to the members, who had requested him to attend. They had to go into the matter of a request by his union for a minimum rate of £3 a week for all classes of musicians engaged at the suburban cinemas for four hours' work nightly.

Mr. R. M. Wright (of the Imperial) asked the delegates what was the position of their union with regard to musicians who followed a different occupation during the day.

In reply, Mr. Allen said the union were out to level the wages up, no matter whether they were trade unionists or not. He considered that all musicians should be treated alike. There were few musicians now that were not members of their union in the town.

Mr. Wright said, speaking for himself, that many of the smaller halls could not afford to pay the money demanded on account of the small holding capacity.

Mr. Sharpe remarked that he did not consider that because a hall was small the musicians should take a lower salary. The services of the musicians were of the same value in a large or small hall, and it could not be reasonably said that a request for a minimum of £3 per week in these days was too much.

Mr. Chamberlin, who is the representative for Leicestershire on the C.E.A. Council, asked Mr. Allen if he thought that a man who worked in the day could give satisfactory work in the evening, in reply to which Mr. Allen admitted that he did not think he could, but if the musicians were paid a better salary there would not be any need for them to augment their pay by other work.

Mr. Trueman Towers (Floral Hall) thought the A.M.U. should consider the type of house in fixing a minimum.

Eventually Mr. Wright moved that Mr. Allen and his colleague be thanked for their attendance, and that the matter be left over till the next meeting.

Propaganda Films.

A communication was read from headquarters concerning the screening of propaganda films for profit which had not been passed by the British Board of Film Censors.

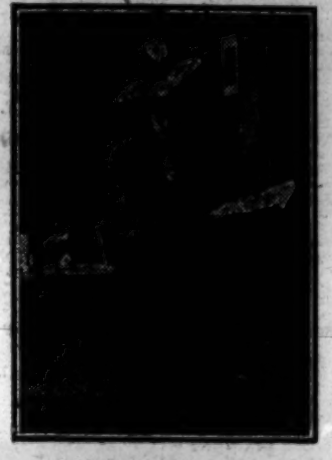
Mr. Chamberlin said the Council had decided that members should be asked not to exhibit this class of film for profit, but they had no objection to its private exhibition. The C.E.A. desired that managers should be notified of their wishes in this respect. The C.E.A. had come to the decision to notify such films to the licensing authorities, asking them to ban their public exhibition.

"AS GOD MADE HER."

ROMANTIC ADVENTURES OF A METAMORPHOSED MAID-OF-ALL-WORK.

Production .... Anglo-Hollandia Films
Type ..... Drama
Stars .. Mary Odette and Henry Victor
Length ..... 6 Reels (about 6,000ft.)

This pretty and pathetic little drama, by Helen Protheroe Lewis, produced by Messrs. Maurice Bingen and B. E. Donat-Peati, relates the startling adventures of Rachel Higgins, the fascinating little maid at Palfrey's drapery establishment. Receiving a legacy of £500, she fares forth to seek adventure. After many a rebuff from her own sex in her efforts to storm the citadel



MARY ODETTE in "AS GOD MADE HER."

of society she captivates Capt. Seward Pendyne, second son of an old aristocrat. Her duplicity in marrying under an assumed name, and pretending that her father was an artist, provokes the bitter hostility of this old autocrat, and nearly results in her taking her own life, as well as estrangement from her husband. However, all ends happily, and the advent of a son and heir to the honoured name of Pendyne proves the means of reconciling even the bigoted old baronet and cementing this union of high and low.

The piece was well acted by all concerned, and its pretty pathos and homely sentiment are very appealing. Miss Mary Odette made a piquant and charming Rachel, and showed emotional ability in the later scenes. Mr. Henry Victor and Mr. Adelqui Miglior were excellent as the husband, and the rough diamond, Wilfred Palfrey. The photography was notably good, a moonlit seascape, woodland scenes and faithfully depicted interiors all being excellent.

* * *

"THE UNCROWNED KING."

HARVARD UNDERGRAD. AS BALKAN MONARCH.

Production ..... Inter-Ocean Film Co.
Stars ..... Carlyle Blackwell and Evelyn Greeley
Type ..... Drama
Length ..... Five Parts
Controllers ..... Faulkner's Exclusives

This is the story of how Jack Christie, an athletic and impetuous young undergraduate of Harvard, travelling with a fellow-student, learns that his companion is the heir to one of the petty Balkan thrones. Owing to an accident to the heir, Jack, at the earnest entreaty of a General Malcoff, agrees to impersonate him for the time being, and is received with acclamation on his arrival by the agency of an aeroplane. Jack is as outspoken to the people as his methods are unorthodox, and on the arrival of an ultimatum from a neighbouring state he treats the messenger with scant courtesy. In the end, however, he averts trouble, marries the reigning princess of the rival state, and, blessed by the arrival of a son and heir, contrives to have a happier time than most of the crowned potentates of the communities by which he is surrounded. The acting and photography are excellent.

* * *

"CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS."

FINE HISTORICAL FILM.

Production ..... Gaumont
Stars ..... M. George Wague and Mme. L. Massart
Type ..... Historical Drama
Length ..... Six Parts

This is a magnificent picturisation of the life of Christopher Columbus, set out in chronological order and with historical accuracy, the scenes being taken on the actual ground and in the buildings associated with the great discoverer. Many of the articles seen in the picture are veritable relics, notably the flags, the producers having been loyally helped by the Spanish authorities, and having had access to authentic records of the period. The story lends itself to screen presentation, for the life of Columbus was one of heroic achievement and sacrifice, the hero, after attaining fame and the adulation of his countrymen, dying in penury and oblivion owing to the jealousy and malevolence of his enemies. Many beautiful scenes, mediæval pageantry, and delightful seascapes are shown, some of the latter being greeted with hearty enthusiasm. The acting of M. George Wague as Columbus and Mme. L. Massart as Queen Isabella of Spain (a truly regal figure) was all that could be desired. Messrs. Gaumont are to be warmly complimented on a very fine achievement.

We are asked to state that Mr. Leonard Stewart, or Stuart, referred to in a recent case in the High Court, has no connection whatever with Stuart's Film Service, Ltd., 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W. 1. The name of this company will shortly be changed.

By kind permission of the manager, Mr. A. E. Kent, a collection in aid of the memorial extension of the Great Northern Central Hospital was made at the Holloway Empire on May 3, the sum of £4 16s. being received.

COMING TRADE SHOWS.

LONDON.

Wife by Proxy (Pathé), London Pav., 2.30, May 19.
Price of Innocence (General), Piccadilly Cine. Th., 11, May 19.
A Woman's Story (L.I.F.T.), 28, Denman-street, 3, May 19.
$1,000,000 Reward (F.B.O.), Own Theatre, 3, May 19.
Million Dollar Dollies (Gaumont), New Gallery Cinema, 11, May 20.
The Woman in Room 13 (Goldwyn), London Pav., 3, May 20.
$1,000,000 Reward (F.B.O.), Own Theatre, 3, May 20.
Cupid Hires a Taxi-cab (Phillips), Shaftesbury Pav., 11.30, May 20.
$1,000,000 Reward (F.B.O.), Own Theatre, 3, May 21.
Curse of Greed (Stoll), London Pav., 3, May 21.
Lonely Woman (West. Imp.), Own Theatre, 2.46, May 20; 11 and 2.46, May 21.
Enchantment (Jury), New Gallery, 11, May 21.
Savage Instinct (Ward's), Shaftesbury Pav., 11.30, May 24.
Round the World for a Wager (Pathé), London Pavilion, 6.30, May 25.

BIRMINGHAM.

Black Spider (Butcher), Futurist, 11, May 19.
Love in the Wilderness (Granger), Scala, 11.15, May 19.
L'Apache, Crooked Straight (F.-Lasky), New-street P.H., 11, May 19.
On With the Motley (L.I.F.T.), Scala, 11, May 20.
Father O'Flynn (Cinematography, Ltd.), New-street P.H., 11.15, May 20.
The Autocrat (Cinematography, Ltd.), New-street P.H., 11.15, May 21.
Jack Straw (F.-Lasky), Scala, 11, May 21.
Wife by Proxy (Pathé), Own Theatre, 2.30, May 21.
J'Accuse (Pathé), Futurist, 10.30, May 26.
The Ballet Girl (Mitchell's), Scala, 11, May 26.
Lonely Woman (West. Imp.), Own T., 7, May 30.

GLASGOW.

Wanted, a Husband, Double Speed (F.-Lasky), Cinema House, 11, May 19.
Man Above the Law (West. Imp.), 182, Trongate, 2.30, May 21.
A Woman in Grey (F.B.O.), Salon, 11, May 21.
A Woman in Grey (F.B.O.), Own Theatre, 3, May 21.
L'Apache (F.-Lasky), Cinema House, 11, May 21.

LEEDS.

Two Women (Vitagraph), Cinema Ex., 11, May 19.
She Loves and Lies (Walturdaw), Cinema Ex., 11.30 and 2.30, May 19.
Flames of the Flesh (Fox), Cinema Ex., 11.40, May 20.
Auction of Virtue (Grosvenor), Cinema Ex., 2.30, May 20.
The Butterfly Man (New Century), Own Theatre, 2.30, May 21.
Invisible Hand (Vitagraph), Cinema Ex., 11.40, May 21.
Nancy Comes Home (West. Imp.), Cinema Ex., 3.30, May 1.
Why Smith Left Home (F.-Lasky), New Gallery, 11, May 21.
J'Accuse (Pathé), Tower, Briggate, 10.30, May 21.
Wife by Proxy (Pathé), Cinema Ex., 10.40, May 25.
Alias Mary Brown (West. Imp.), Cinema Ex., 2.30, May 26.

LIVERPOOL.

Woman in Grey (F.B.O.), Cinema Ex., 11, May 19.
Alias Mary Brown (West. Imp.), City P.H., 11, May 19.
On With the Dance (F.-Lasky), Scala, 11, May 19.
Hand Invisible (Phillips), Cinema Ex., 11, May 19.
Garryowen (Weisker), Picture House, 11, May 20.
Two Women (Vitagraph), Scala, 11, May 20.
Jack Straw (F.-Lasky), Scala, 11, May 21.
Adventures of Ruth (Pathé), Own Theatre, 11 and 2.30, May 25.
Red-haired Cupid (West. Imp.), City P.H., 11, May 26.

MANCHESTER.

Christopher Columbus (Gaumont), Own Theatre, 11, 2.30, May 19.
Little Welsh Girl (Weisker), Cinema Ex., 2.30, May 19.
Flames of the Flesh (Fox), Oxford P.H., 11, May 19.
Alias Mary Brown (West. Imp.), Own Theatre, 2.30, May 20.
Why Smith Left Home (F.-Lasky), Cinema Ex., 11, May 21.
Alias Mary Brown (West. Imp.), Own Theatre, 11 and 2.30, May 21.
Garryowen (Jury), Picture House, 11, May 21.
Adventures of Ruth (Pathé), Own Theatre, 11 and 2.30, May 26.
Red-haired Cupid (West. Imp.), Own Theatre, 11 and 2.30, May 25 and 28; 2.30, May 27.

NEWCASTLE.

Supreme Sacrifice (Schofield and Crozier), Stoll P.T., 11, May 19.
Love Insurance (F.-Lasky), Granger, 11, May 19.
Fate's Plaything (Butcher), Queen's Hall, 11.15, May 19.
Are Passions Inherited? (Jockelson's), Pavilion, 11.15, May 19.
Man Above the Law (West. Imp.), Own Theatre, 11, May 19.
The Iron Stair (Stoll), Stoll P.T., 11, May 21.
Wanted, a Husband (F.-Lasky), Granger P.T., 11, May 21.
Birth of a Soul (Vitagraph), Own Theatre, 11 and 2, May 21.
Her Kingdom of Dreams (Jury), Own Theatre, 11 and 2, May 21.
A Woman's Story (L.I.F.T.), Pavilion, 11, May 21.
Nancy Comes Home (West. Imp.), 25, Northumberland-street, 11, May 26.

NOTTINGHAM.

Adventures of Ruth (Pathé), Parliament P.H., 10.30, May 19.
Jack Straw (F.-Lasky), Lounge Th., 11, May 19.
L'Apache, Crooked Straight (F.-Lasky), Lounge, 11, May 20.
Face at the Window (Phillips), Goldsmith P.P., 11, May 21.
Yellow Passport, Naked Hands (Mitchell), Parliament P.H., 11, May 25.

SHEFFIELD.

Yellow Passport (Ward's), Union-street P.H., 11, May 19.
The Butterfly Man (Jury), Own Theatre, 2.30, May 19.
L'Apache, Crooked Straight (F.-Lasky), Tivoli, 11, May 19.
Shod With Fire (Fox), Electra, 11, May 19.
Adventures of Ruth (Pathé), Electra, 10.30, May 20.
Jack Straw (F.-Lasky), 126, Norfolk-street, 3, May 21.
Alias Mary Brown (West. Imp.), Clayton's Bioscope, 11, May 25.
Wife by Proxy (Pathé), Union-street P.P., 11, May 26.

NOTE THE DATE.

APRIL 4, 1921,

IS THE RELEASE DATE OF

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FILM MARKINGS.

For the benefit of Exhibitors in London and the Provinces who are booking their programmes solely on our markings, we are in future giving further details. We would point out that the markings allotted to films in this section are given on their relative drawing power to showmen:—

Reference No. .. .. 6—10.
Suit high-class audience.....A | Suit sensational audience C
Suit average audience .....B | Suit any audience .....D

EXCLUSIVES.

Released.	Name.	Brand.	Description.	Feet.	Marks.	Suitability.
Jan. 3 ..	The Adventures of Ruth ..	Pathé	Serial	15 Epl.	0	B
Jan. 20 ..	Wanted, a Husband.. ..	Paramount-Art. Zukor	—	4000	0	B D
Feb. 11 ..	Double Speed	Paramount-Art. Lasky	Comedy	4000	9¼	D
April 18 ..	Two Women	Vitagraph Re.	Drama	5700	8¼	B
May 12 .. 1921	Beckett-Wells	Pathé	Interest	3 rls.	0½	B D
Feb. 7 ..	Manhattan Knight	Fox-Walsh	Drama	4800	0	D
Notknown	Alf's Button.. ..	Hepworth-Imperial	Comedy	7000	10	D
Notknown	At the Mercy of Tiberius ..	Samuelson-Californian General	Drama	6000	9½	D
Notknown	The Supreme Sacrifice ..	Ward's American	Drama	5000	8¾	B
Notknown	Mify	General-Cartoon D. Buxton	—	1 rl.	0	D
Notknown	Flames of the Flesh ..	Fox	Melodr'ma	5000	8¾	B
Notknown	World's Wit	Ellesmere	Interest	200	0	B
Notknown	Beachoning Roads	Jury's	Drama	5000	8¾	B
Notknown	The Glorious Lady	Walturdaw-Sleznich	Drama	5000	8½	B
Notknown	Their First Car	Jury's-Supreme	Comedy	1000	0	D
Notknown	Only the Brave Deserve ..	Kilner	Drama	5000	8¾	B
Notknown	A Woman's Story	L.I.F.T.	Drama	5700	8¾	B D
	OPEN MARKET.					
	Transatlantic.					
Aug. 26 ..	Scapsuds and Subjects ..	C.C.	—	1000	8½	B
Aug. 26 ..	Billy's Scoop	C.C.	—	950	8½	B
Aug. 31 ..	Practice Makes Perfect ..	—	—	—	7½	D
Sept. 2 ..	Leading Them a Dance ..	C.C.	—	700	8½	B
Sept. 2 ..	Harrup Pig	A.C.	—	—	8¼	B
Sept. 2 ..	Screen Magazine	T.A.	Interest	—	7	D
Notknown	Fox News	Fox	Interest	—	0	D
Notknown	Pathé Pictorial	Pathé	Interest	—	0	D
Notknown	Gaumont Graphic	Gaumont	Interest	—	8¾	B

"IN OLD ALSACE."

CUPID'S TRIUMPH OVER BACHELOR.

Production ..... M. Rene Hervil
Type .....Comedy Drama
Star ..... Mlle. Huguettes Duflos
Length ..... Five Reels
Distributors ..... Butchers

"In Old Alsace" met with an enthusiastic reception when it was screened at the West End Cinema recently. It is charmingly produced. The story, delightfully unfolded, centres round Fritz Kobus, a jolly bachelor, who has sworn never to marry; but, alas for Fritz's oath, he meets Suzel, the pretty daughter of his tenant, and promptly falls in love. He refuses to give in without a struggle, and endeavours in various ways to forget Suzel's smile. Finally his jealousy is aroused by the rumour that a new suitor is hovering around, and he decides to risk matrimony.

* * *

"A WOMAN IN GREY."

MYSTERY STORY IN WHICH HIDDEN TREASURE AND A CODE PLAY PROMINENT PARTS.

Production..Film Booking Offices, Ltd.
Type ..... Domestic Serial
Stars .....Arline Pretty, Henry G. Sell
Length .....Fifteen Two-reel Episodes
Release ..... August 23

"A Woman in Grey," the new serial being put forth by Messrs. Film Booking Offices, opens up a new type in serials. It is the screen version of one of the famous novels written by those clever collaborators, Mr. and Mrs. Williamson, and it introduces two celebrated serial stars in Arline Pretty and Henry G. Sell, both of whom must have led very strenuous lives while the serial was in the course of making. Most novel readers will remember the plot of the book, in which is told the story of Florence Haynes, condemned to imprisonment for life for the murder of Mrs. Haynes, her foster-mother, in an old house belonging to Wilfrid Amory. A treasure is supposed to be hidden therein also, and there are plots and counter-plots to obtain possession of it. The heroine is one called Ruth Hope, who has written a book, "The Woman in Grey," dealing with the facts of the murder, and the mystery about her is still further heightened by the concealing ornament over her hand. Obviously she is either Florence Haynes, who was said to have died in prison, or Mary Edwardes, the maid-servant, whose evidence went far to condemning her young mistress, and the secret is well kept up to the end. The episodes are full of action, romance, and thrills, and the production will certainly prove a great attraction. Photography, acting, and setting are excellent.

* * *

"DR. JEKYLL AND MR. HYDE."

THRILLING SCREEN ADAPTATION OF FAMOUS ROMANCE.

Production ..... Paramount Artcraft
Star ..... John Barrymore
Type ..... Drama
Length ..... Seven Parts

This thrilling screen rendering of Robert Louis Stephenson's classic was shown to a large audience at the New Gallery on Friday. The dual rôle of Jekyll and Hyde is played by Mr. John Barrymore, the American star, and his performance stands out as one of the most vividly impressive enactments yet shown on the screen. The scene in the laboratory, where the mild-mannered and courtly Dr. Jekyll, by the aid of a drug, transforms himself into the hideously deformed and repulsive Hyde, is terrible in its realism, and will create a sensation whenever shown. In all its aspects, "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde" is a remarkable production, and will undoubtedly appeal to all who are interested in acting of an intensely realistic character. The atmosphere of the period in which the story is laid is well preserved, and Mr. Barrymore's support is admirable.

"THE DEFINITE OBJECT."

A YOUTHFUL PRODUCER.

The Eros Film Productions, one of the newest British companies, have acquired the rights of Jeffrey Farnol's book, "The Definite Object," for its first venture. The producer is Mr. Edgar Camiller, who has also adapted the book for the screen, and is our youngest producer, being only 22. For the part of Hermione Chesterton, Mr.

MR. EDGAR CAMILLER.

Camiller has selected Miss Ann Elliott, a newcomer to filmland, but a leading lady who has, the producer states, so far quite justified her expectations.

An American story of the eternal triangle type, "The Definite Object" has as its location the slums of New York, and many exciting and interesting scenes are promised. Mr. Camiller is determined that the first of the Eros film shall be as near perfection as possible, and each day's work is developed and copper-printed so that he may analyse it on the screen the following morning. In addition to Miss Elliott, the cast includes Peter Upcher, Chas. Stafford-Dickens, Phil. Holles, J. Cleak-Morton, Eric Lugg, Katherine Barrett, Cliff Davies, and Lional Scott.

"AT THE VILLA ROSE."

MYSTERY DRAMA BEAUTIFULLY PICTURED.

Production ..... Stoll Film Co.
Type ..... Drama
Stars .....Langhorne Burton and Manora Thew
Length ..... Five Reels

"At the Villa Rose," a strong mystery drama of many surprises, is an excellent British production. The photography is particularly clear, and the scenes taken in Monte Carlo are all beauty spots. Langhorne Burton and Manora Thew play their parts excellently, and the rôle of the adventuress is well portrayed. A. E. W. Mason's novel concerns the murder of a wealthy woman for her jewellery, and the throwing of the guilt on her adopted daughter. An admirer of the latter is the friend of the detective on the case, and he is visibly grieved as the rope tightens around the suspected criminal. Therefore, it is all the more surprising to discover that the crime was committed by the young man himself, who, in a series of thrilling scenes, describes the manner in which he accomplished the deed. Finally, the unfortunate girl is rescued from a horrible fate in the nick of time.

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ON THE ROAD.

[Will Managers kindly send in their Tour Lists for insertion in "On the Road" by Monday morning in each week?]

PLAYS.

Abbott, Ernest.—May 17, T.R., Leicester; 24, T.R., Stratford.
Abraham Lincoln.—May 17, Gaiety, Dublin; 24, O.H., Cork.
Allington Charsley Opera Co. — May 17, Alh., Barnsley; 24, O.H., Bridlington.
Annie Laurie.—May 17, T.R., Birkenhead.
Ashamed of the Man She Married.—May 17, T.R., N. Shields; 24, G., Nottingham.
Baby Bunting.—May 17, County, Reading.
Baynton Shakespearean Co. (Henry).—May 17, T.R., Blackburn; 24, Lyc., Ipswich.
Belle of New York.—May 17, O.H., Leicester; 24, P.'s, Manchester.
Billeted.—May 17, Corn Ex., Chelmsford; 24, O.H., Jersey.
Blindness of Virtue.—May 17, King's Lynn (3), Lowestoft (3); 24, Hip., Sheerness.
Boy, This.—May 17, Dudley.
Boy of My Heart.—May 17, Emp., Wakefield; 24, G., Wolverhampton.
Brewster's Millions.—May 17, T.R., Dewsbury; 24, G., Hull.
Butterfly on the Wheel.—May 17, H.M., Carlisle; 24, New, Salisbury.
Cæsar's Wife.—May 17, New, Cardiff; 24, T.R., Bognor.
Carl Rosa Opera Co.—May 17, G., Swansea; 24, Lyc., Newport.
Carminetta.—May 17, Swindon; 24, Dewsbury.
Charley's Aunt.—May 24, New, Birmingham.
Chinese Puzzle.—May 17, G., Hull; 24, Brixton Theatre.
Compton Comedy Co.—May 17, T.R., Glasgow.
Cray (Oswald) Rep. Co.—May 17, Gaiety, Methil, N.B.; 24, Gaiety, Leith.
Curse of the Black Pearl. — May 17, G., Aberaman.
Custody of the Child. — May 17, Emp., Egremont; 24, Hip., Hamilton.
Daddalums.—May 17, New, Oxford.
Daddies.—May 17, R., Newcastle; 24, R., Nottingham.
Daddies.—May 17, O.H., Middlesbrough; 24, O.H., Harrogate (3).
Daddy Long-Legs.—May 17, T.R., Guildford; 24, T.R., Manchester.
Daddy Long-Legs (Miller).—May 17, G., Blackpool; 24, T.R., Bolton.
Damaged Goods. — May 17, Borough T., Stratford; 24, G., Oldham.
Diplomacy.—May 17, Camborne (3); 23, Llandrindod (3).
Discharged with Honour.—May 17, Met., Bootle; 24, Pal., Ammanford.
Disgraced.—May 17, T.R., Jarrow.
Dobell (W. L.) Rep. Co.—May 17, P.H., Bray.
Doran Shakespearean Co. (Chas.).—May 17, Pier, Southsea; 24, Pal., Ramsgate.
D'Oyly Carte.—May 17, P.O.W., Birmingham; 24, O.H., Blackpool.
D'Oyly Carte Opera Co.—May 17, T.R., Bath; 24, Emp., Swindon.
End of the Road.—May 17, Albert Hall, Swansea; 24, Parish Hall, Warrington.
Female Hun.—May 17, Hip., Preston.
Five Nights.—May 17, Hip., Dover; 24, T.R., Canterbury.
Gay Bohemia.—May 17, Pal., Rawtenstall; 24, New, Boston.
General Post.—May 17, Lyc., Newport.
Going Up (Macdonald and Young).—May 17, Hammersmith; 24, Wimbledon.
Heart of a Thief.—May 17, New, Pontypridd.
Hill-Mitchelson, E., Rep. Co. — May 17, Junc., Manchester; 24, G., Nottingham.
His Little Widows.—May 17, Emp., Kingston.
His Little Widows (Macdonald and Young). —May 17, Leamington; 24, Coventry.
Hobson's Choice.—May 17, Pier, Eastbourne.
Home and Beauty.—May 17, T.R., Bournemouth; 24, W.P., Brighton.
Ignorance.—May 17, Eden T., Bishop Auckland; 24, Met., Glasgow.
Inside the Lines.—May 17, T.R., Worthing; 24, Hip., Dover.
Jeffersons, The.—May 17, O.H., St. Helens; 24, Rty., Morecambe.
Kinema Kid.—May 17, Queen's P. Hip., Manchester; 24, Alh., Stourbridge.
La Poupée. — May 17, Nottingham; 24, Bournemouth.
La Tosca.—May 17, T.R., Plymouth.
Laurence Rep. (Leonard). — May 17, G., West Hartlepool; 24, T.R., Jarrow.
Law Divine (H. V. Esmond).—May 17, P.'s, Manchester.
Lilac Domino (Butt).—May 24, Grimsby.
Little Babette.—May 17, Marina, Lowestoft; 24, Wisbech (3).
Little Bit of Fluff.—May 17, Pal., Maidstone; 24, T.R., Windsor.
Little Widow.—May 17, T.R., Salisbury.
Little Women.—May 17, Scarborough (3), Harrogate (3).
Luck of the Navy (North). — May 17, Coventry; 24, Croydon.
Maid of the Mountains.—May 17, Worcester.
Maid of the Mountains (South).—May 17, Watford.
Man from Toronto.—May 17, Lyc., Edinburgh; 24, King's, Glasgow.
Mice and Men.—May 17, G., Wolverhampton; 24, New, Worcester.
Milestones (Platt and Eaton).—May 17, T.R., Brighton; 24, T.R., Manchester.
Mill Girl's Wedding.—May 17, G., Derby; 24, Palace, Tynemouth.
Monsieur Beaucaire.—May 17, Lyc., Sheffield; 24, G., Leeds.
My Aunt from New York.—May 17, G., Derby; 24, Palace, Tynemouth.
Naughty Wife.—May 17, P.'s, Bristol; 24, T.R., Aldershot.
Nothing But the Truth (Miller).—May 17, Harrogate (3), Scarborough (3); 24, O.H., Buxton.
Nurse Benson.—May 17, G., Southampton; 24, G., Swansea.
Oh! Betsy.—May 17, Pav., Weymouth.
O'Mara Opera Co.—May 17, G., Falkirk.
Our Mr. Hepplewhite.—May 17, P.'s, Manchester; 24, Ass. Rooms, Malvern (3).
Peg o' My Heart.—May 17, G., Luton; 24, Ripley (3).
Plaything of an Hour.—May 17, G., Methil, N.B.; 24, Gaiety, Leith.
Purple Mask (King and Clark).—May 17, T.R., Darlington; 24, T.R., Barry.
Pygmalion. — May 17, Hip., Rugby; 24, T.R., Cheltenham.
Quaker Girl.—May 17, Col., Long Eaton; 24, Col., Ilkeston.
Right to Live.—May 17, New, Pontypridd.
Romance of the Rosary. — May 17, G., Derby; 24, Pal., Tynemouth.
Rotters, The.—May 17, Wellington, Salop; 24, Shakespeare, Liverpool.
Sacred and Profane Love.—May 17, Ipswich; 24, P. P., Brighton.
Scarlet Pimpernal (Neilson and Terry).—May 17, G., Croydon; 24, R., Brighton.
Silver King, The.—May 17, P.'s, Crayford; 24, T.R., Exeter.
Soiled (North).—May 17, Perth.
Soiled (South).—May 17, H., Sheerness.
Soldier Boy (Macdonald and Young). — May 17, Woolwich; 24, Oxford and Cambridge.
Stephens (Dot) Rep. Co.—May 17, Alex., Birmingham; 24, R., Leicester.
Sunshine of the World. — May 17, O.H., Blackpool; 24, Gaiety, Dublin.
Temporary Gentleman.—May 17, T.R., Bradford; 24, P.'s, Bristol.
Tiger's Cub.—May 17, G., Walham Green; 24, Pal., Weston-super-Mare.
Tilly of Bloomsbury.—May 17, T.R., Cambridge.
Too Many Girls.—May 17, Hip., Devonport.
Trilby (Neilson-Terry).—May 17, G., Leeds; 24, Boro', Stratford, E.
Two Little Drummer Boys.—May 17, T.R., Smethwick; 24, Pal., Bordesley.
Victory (Barclay and Lister). — May 17, T.R., Birkenhead; 24, Pier, Eastbourne.
Wagner and Scarsden Rep. Co.—May 17, T.R., Jarrow; 24, Mar., Lowestoft.
Wandering Jewess.—May 17, R., Hanley.
Week-End, A.—May 17, Aq., G. Yarmouth.

REVUES.

All Aboard.—May 17, Hip., Accrington; 24, Hip., Bury.
A la Carte.—May 17, Tiv., New Brighton; 24, Emp., Penge.
As You Were.—May 17, Empire, Islington; 24, Regent, Lowestoft.
Buzz-Buzz.—May 17, York; 24, Scarboro' (3), Harrogate (3).
Buzz Along.—May 24, Grand, Wellington.
Certainly Not.—May 17, Emp., Mountain Ash.
Dream Girl.—May 17, Jubilee H., Weymouth; 24, Pal., Plymouth.
Heads or Tails.—May 17, Hip., Darlington; 24, Hip., Accrington.
Hullo! America. — May 17, King's, Edinburgh; 24, King's, Edinburgh.
Hello! Blackpool. — May 17, Alex., Pontefract; 24, T.R., Barnsley.
Hooray, We're Here!—May 17, T.R., Stockport; 24, T.R., Ashton.
Hustle.—May 17, Aberdeen.
Mumming Birds.—May 17, Emp., Newport; 24, Emp., Cardiff.
Na-Poo. — May 17, Pall., Aberdeen; 24, W.H., Mountain Ash.
Nights of Gladness.—May 17, Hip., Ipswich.
Nothing Doing.—May 17, Pal., Grimsby; 24, Woolwich.
Oh! Harry.—May 17, Hip., Stockton; 24, Met., Bootle.
Rat-Tat-Tat.—May 17, Edinburgh.
Redheads.—May 17, G., Brighton; 24, Eden T., Bishop Auckland.
Scarlet Runners.—May 17, T.R., Hyde; 24, P.'s, Blackburn.
Sweet Fanny Adams.—May 17, Gravesend.
Toodle-oo.—May 17, Pav., Wombwell; 24, G., St. Albans.
Touchwood.—May 17, Hip., Maidenhead.
What Next. — May 17, Hip., Ilford; 24, O.H., Burton.

The International Horse Show.

The arrangements for the ninth International Horse Show, opening at Olympia on June 16, are now complete. On June 10 a thousand workmen will set to work to give the building the picturesque aspect it formerly possessed.

"THE ERA" LETTER BOX

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Windle, Mr. Wm.
Windermere, Mr. Chas.
Wingfield, Mr. Conway
Wingrove, Mrs. I.
Winskill, E.
Winter, Miss Jessie
Woodington, Miss Beatrice
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Worth, Miss Mammie

THREE ONE-ACT PLAYS.

The nerve-shattering experiences of Londoners during the war are vividly recalled by the first of the three one-act plays, by Mr. J. Hartley Manners, contained in one volume, and published in Great Britain for the Geo. H. Doran Company by Hodder and Stoughton, Ltd. This play is entitled "All Clear," and the scene is a little room in a tenement house in a poor district of the metropolis. A boy and girl left in charge of an ailing child of three take part in a gruesome game known as "Zeppa," until interrupted by the arrival of a Church of England clergyman. Presently the child's mother, a young war widow, returns, and the minister, after a promise of assistance in the way of sending the mother and little girl to a home in the country, departs. The play has a tragic ending. There is an air-raid, during which a bomb explodes in front of the house, and a mass of debris falling on to the bed, kills the child. The injured woman and the dead little girl are discovered by a couple of policemen, and the welcome "All Clear" is sounded as she is carried out of the partly wrecked house by the constables.

The author's avowed object in publishing these plays is "to keep alive remembrance of some of the barbarous outrages perpetrated by the Hun on innocent and wretched peoples"; and the two which complete the volume, entitled respectively "God of My Faith" and "God's Outcast," are both based on incidents of the war. All the plays are distinguished by dramatic force, and make excellent reading.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

Happy Returns to—

Madame Melba—Wednesday, May 19.
Vivian Foster—Wednesday, May 19.
Gilbert Porteous—Wednesday, May 19.
Dorothea Baird—Thursday, May 20.
T. B. Thalberg—Thursday, May 20.
Pauline Chase—Thursday, May 20.
C. Douglas Stuart—Friday, May 21.
A. Prescott—Friday, May 21.
Morny Cash—Friday, May 21.
Richard W. Butler—Friday, May 21.
Sir A. Conan Doyle—Saturday, May 22.
F. Traynor—Sunday, May 23.
My Fancy—Sunday, May 23.
Dion Boucicault—Sunday, May 23.
Edward Foster—Sunday, May 23.
Joe O'Gorman—Monday, May 24.
Sir A. W. Pinero—Monday, May 24.
Mabel Lait—Tuesday, May 25.
Edward Cranston—Tuesday, May 25.
George Miller—Tuesday, May 25.

"I'll swear upon that bottle."
—*Tempest, Act ii, Scene ii.*

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"Drink and fear not."
—*Henry VI., Act ii, Scene iii.*

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"I had medical advice, and kept trying one thing after another, but without any benefit, till at last I got Dr. Cassell's Tablets. Then relief came. I began to sleep at night, and the pain and indigestion lessened. I grew stronger daily, till in quite a short time I felt as well as before my illness."

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NEXT WEEK'S CALLS.

MONDAY, MAY 24, 1920.

The Editor relies upon the good faith of managers and others, and cannot accept responsibility with regard to any inaccuracies or changes which may be made in the calls.

BILL MATTER FOR JUNE 14 NOW DUE.

BARNEY ARMSTRONG CIRCUIT.

BELFAST EMPIRE.—Doc. Campbell, Bandmaster Morris, Brady and Dunne, Whiteway Four, Bert Weston, Gerald Reid.

DERRY EMPIRE.—Wills and Warlock, The Taffies, and company as booked.

DUBLIN EMPIRE.—Kitty Curtis, Elsie Sadler Quartette, Dan Leno, Three Walkers, Foreman and Fannan, Buckleys, Budd and Clare, McDonald Watson and company, Chas. Sherriff.

EDINBURGH THEATRE ROYAL.—Fred. Collins' company, "Bachles and Herrin'" revue.

BOSTOCK TOUR.

BLANTYRE PICTURE HOUSE (rehearsal, 5.30).—Jack Clevoner.

HAMILTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—E. C. Hewitt presents "The Cus-

RAYMOND Present Prestidigitateur.

tody of the Child," "The Sin of Ann Slackpole."

IPSWICH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 2).—Mary Mayfron and Co., Jennion's Mannikins, Dorothy B. Lloyd, Frank Powell, Leo Bliss, Doroswami, Kenna Bros., pictures.

IPSWICH LYCEUM THEATRE.—Henry Baynton and Co. in Shakespearean plays.

NORWICH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 11).—Billy O'Connor, Carr Lynn, The Westbrooks, Les Eldons, Ruffles Quartette.

PAISLEY RINK PALACE (rehearsal, 12).—Raymack Trio, Ida Lyndon, Cromer.

PAISLEY THEATRE (rehearsal, 12).—Thos. F. Convery presents "Demobbed" revue.

HARRY DAWN CIRCUIT.

EDMONTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 4).—Jenkins Bros., Irene Alexander, Duncan and Brasque, Carthy and Dale, 2 Selbinis, Charman and Cooper, The Royal Bartle Quartette.

MILE END EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—The Dorinos, Lily Burnand, Donn Duo.

RAMSGATE PAVILION.—My Fancy Songsters, Marcella Lavin, Chas. Hersee, Harry Fairman, Rowland Hill, Ethel Dunford, Beryll Joyce, Edith Lawrence, Sam Rogers and his band.

LONDON SYNDICATE HALLS.

(See page 23).

LONDON THEATRES OF VARIETIES.

(See page 17).

MACNAGHTEN CIRCUIT.

BLACKBURN.—Evelyn Tyser, Lucan and McShane, Brooklyn Comedy Four,

RAYMOND Some Sorcerer.

Wheeler and Wilson, Billie Reeves, Billie Val and Partner, Jack Byrne.

BRADFORD.—"First Impression," Stacey and Tinney, Oreste, Alma Le Dare, Dowper Brothers, Tom Payne.

BURNLEY.—Elsie Cross, Grossman and Winters, Emilion Bros. and Lady, Morgan and Burke, Alfredo, Ginters, Reg. Bolton.

CARLISLE.—The O'Cullens, Lowdini, Caron Troupe, Jack Shields, Crankite, Johnny Fuller, Penman's Nibs.

HALIFAX.—Stephanie Anderson, Franco Piper, The Ansereaus, Leonard and Stevens, Yost and Partner, Tailleur Andrews.

HUDDERSFIELD.—J. P. Ling, Westminster Singers, Gaby Rovette, Ladd West, Edis and Forbes, Hughie Emeric, Leslie Glenroy.

LEICESTER.—Company as booked. Rehearsal at all halls at 12.

SOUTHAMPTON.—"Sarah Sleeps Out," Phil and Phlora, Niobe, Joan and Maude, Tom Finglass, The Balladmongers, Harry Hadley, Adami and Lee.

WARRINGTON.—Mary Leighton, Two Canadians, Mart and Pep, A. D. Robbins, Artemas, Lily Flexmore, Lily Layton.

MOSS' EMPIRES, LTD.

BIRMINGHAM EMPIRE (rehearsal 12.30).—Fred Karno presents "Money to Burn," The Mongadons, V. M. Gaston, Fred. Morris.

BIRMINGHAM GRAND (rehearsal, 1).—Two Rascalls, Harry Herbert, Osborne and Forryer, Jean and Jacques, Tom Davies Trio.

BIRMINGHAM SUMMERHILL PALACE (rehearsal, 12).—Al Mayor and Billy Welch, Little Hazel, Bernard Sims.

BRADFORD ALHAMBRA (rehearsal, 12.30).—Wylie-Tate production, "Keyhole Kansan," Herbert Le Martine, E. J. Moore, Barrett and Knowles.

CARDIFF EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Fred Karno's "Mumming Birds," Tom

RAYMOND world Wandering with Witty Wizardisms.

Edwards and company, Scotch Kelly, The Four K-Foleys, Graham and Cullen, De Alma, Yelson Trio.

CARDIFF OLYMPIA (rehearsal, 11).—Nan and Nellie Hunt, Arthur Maynard.

Will Artists kindly note that the Cardiff Olympia has the Cardiff Hippodrome, and that no Variety Agent has the sole bookings of the former theatre?

EDINBURGH EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Jay Laurier, Elsie Hudson Quintette, Marcello and Partner, Manny and Roberts, Gerous Wilkey, Dolly Elsworthy, Mazus and Mazette.

FINSBURY PARK EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Seymour Hicks and Isobel Bison in "The Bridal Suite," Vasco, Ruth Astor, Josie O'Meara, Walter James, Rolf Slater, The D'Ormondes.

GATESHEAD EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—St. Juste and Higgins, George Morton, Culpitt, Two Violets, Benson Grey, Hengler Brothers, Lauri Howard.

GLASGOW COLISEUM (rehearsal, 11).—The Lucy Nuttall Trio, The Girtons, Will Walton and company, George D'Albert, Nervo and Knox, Ceeri and Cervi.

GLASGOW EMPIRE (rehearsal, 11).—Mr. Owen Nares and company, Agnes Croxton, Barker and Tarling, Iisuka and Partner, Stan Kavanagh and company.

HULL PALACE (rehearsal, 1).—Mike S. Whallen, Nolan and Holt, Jean Aylwin and Yorke Stephens, Harry Barclay, Jose De Mornes, Maggie Benson, Frank Le Dent.

LEEDS EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Nelson Keys and company, Haley's Juveniles, Orpheus, Yvonne Granville, Mayzo and Sheridan, Three Hessans, Max Darewski.

LIVERPOOL EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—J. L. Davies and Alfred Zeitlin present "Midnight Frolics," The Ziras, Ray Wallace, 10 Loonies.

LIVERPOOL OLYMPIA (rehearsal, 1).—King and Benson, Zomah, Daisy Dormer, Renee and Golfrey, Hal Wright, Martini, Three Nesios.

LONDON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 11).—"Joy Bells."

NEWCASTLE EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Marie Novello and company, Harry Tharston in "Lucky Old Bill," Kiddy Kennedy, Sammy Shields, Jack and Tommie, Jeanette and Scott, The Gladiators.

NEW CROSS EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Ella Shields, Ernest Hastings, "Symphonia," Polnski Brothers, The O'Grabs, Rich. Hayes, Claude Gardner, Victor Andre, Omega Trio.

NEWPORT EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Lawrence Wright Ensemble, Bert Hughes and company, Leslie Elliott, Alec Main, Sam Mayo, Les Barrois.

RAYMOND Wonderful Wizard With Wit.

NOTTINGHAM EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Betty Barclay and George Glover, Wal Langtry, Cornalla and Eddie, Frank Benson, Tom Fagan, Decima and Eddie McLean, Marvellous Merrille, Melody Makers.

PRESTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Macdonald and Young present "Betty."

SALFORD PALACE THEATRE (rehearsal, 11).—George French, Leslie, Stanelli and Edgar, Lily Long, Polnski and Mott, Bert Terroll, Famous Martinis, Arthur Pond, Five Wartons.

SHEFFIELD EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Ada Reeve, Sam Hilton, Two Cures, Manuel Vega, May Sherrard, Hayda Wood and Dorothy Court.

SOUTHSEA KING'S THEATRE (rehearsal, 1.30).—Thompson and Walker, Pimple, Cruikshank, Tom D. Newell, Sisters Reeve, Arthur and Lawrence, Anarto, Les Bastiens.

SOUTH SHIELDS EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Beresford and Pearce present "Whips and Quips."

(Note.—South Shields bars Tynemouth.)

STRATFORD EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Harry Weldon, Burr and Hope, T. E. Dunville, Ben Beyer, Harry Taft, Kathleen Kia-Wah-Na, Ray Kay and Betty Bush, assisted by Tony O'Brien, Four Mackwells.

SUNDERLAND EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Jack Thomas, Two Ascots, Orpheus Trio, La Toy Bros., Anna Hana, Le Veen and

RAYMOND Pursuits Plentiful.

Cross, Four Clovelly Girls, Fred Curran.

(Artists are requested to bring band parts for full orchestra, including horns, bassoon, harp, or second piano parts.)

SWANSEA EMPIRE (rehearsal, 2).—Harry Day presents "Patches."

WEST HARTLEPOOL EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—"Rat-Tat-Tat."

AWARD CIRCUIT.

Note.—Rehearsals at all theatres at 1 p.m., with the exception of the Jubilee Hall, Weymouth, which is at 12 o'clock.

CHEPSTOW PALACE.—Phil Bramsby, The Heywoods.

GUERNSEY ST. JULIAN'S THEATRE.—Friday, May 28, Taylor Platt's company in "Billeted."

JERSEY OPERA HOUSE.—Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, May 24, 25, 26, and 27, Taylor Platt's company in "Billeted."

SALISBURY PALACE.—Meteor Trio, George Perry, Sisters Sprightly, Bert Doyle.

SALISBURY NEW THEATRE.—"A Butterfly on the Wheel."

WEYMOUTH JUBILEE HALL.—The Five Jovers, Gwen Thomas, Huley and Bent, T. B. Wheatley, Gus Barrs.

YEOVIL PALACE.—Bobbie Thornton, Les Bon Bons.

STOLL TOUR.

(See page 23).

VARIETY THEATRES CONTROLLING CO., LTD.

BRIGHTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Ernie Lotinga and Co., Torino, Talbot

RAYMOND Wittiest of Wizards.

O'Farrell, Three Brothers Hurtier, Harry Ford, Elsie Gregory, and company as booked.

Artists playing this Hall must provide the following Band Parts:—Piano, Conductor, 2 1st Violin Books, 2nd Violin, Viola (separate) 'Cello and Bass, Flute, Clarinet, Oboe, Bassoon, Horns, 2 Cornets, 1st and 2nd, and Bass Trombones, Drums.

MISCELLANEOUS.

ALDERSHOT ALFRED BERT'S MILITARY HALLS (rehearsal, 2.30).—The 13 Rainbows, Allan and Austin, Peter and Potts, Cavanah and Hastings, Barnett and Simms, Lala Corri, Gerald Meade, Dolly Clere, Ivy Hyde, Gertie Leno, Will Stuart, Gertie Carty, Fred Gwyn, Genee Franks, Vi Harris, Arthur Merry, Elsie Royal, Fred Everette.

ALDERSHOT HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—Albert De Courville's No. 1 Company, "Keep 'Em Alive."

CANNING TOWN IMPERIAL (rehearsal, 11.30).—Dandy George, Bob Somerville, The Clenays, Charles, Sam Springson and company, Fine and Butt, Montague Birks, &c.

DUNDEE KING'S THEATRE (rehearsal 12).—Barton and Ashley, Valazzi, Rex Wentworth, Andrews and Clarke, Havanna Troupe, McDonald and Payne, Victoria Cornettie.

FOLKESTONE PLAYHOUSE (rehearsal, 12).—Bourne and Lester, Smith and Johnson.

NORTHAMPTON NEW THEATRE (rehearsal, 12).—Shine Haydees Marionettes, The MacLloyds, Arthur Gilroy, Annette and Fialka, Neville Delcour, Jean Andrews.

PONTYPRIDD TOWN HALL (rehearsal, 3).—Ingalese and his Attendants, Joe Whiteford, De Vere and Welbo, Sanford and Lyons, Freddy Regent and Kathleen Taynton, Jess and Tony, Pic and Alf, The Vedras.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS

DEATHS.

NESBITT.—On May 12, at a nursing home, London, John Nesbitt (Archibald Donald), aged 66.

VERNON, EVELYN.—At the National Hospital for Paralysis, Queen's-square, W.C., on the 13th inst., Evelyn Vernon, of 15, Ridley-road, Harlesden. Funeral Monday, 11 a.m., Willesden New Cemetery.

IN MEMORIAM.

ROUTLEDGE.—In tenderest, proudest memory of my most dearly-loved husband, Calvert Routledge, Captain Loyal North Lancashire Regiment, died May 22, 1915, on active service. Also of his birthday, May 29.

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Principal Commedienne (VIOLETTE) R. Courtneidge's "TOO MANY GIRLS," Kennington Theatre, May 24th. Re-engaged by R. Courtneidge, Esq., for Autumn Tour. Agent - - , G. HALL.

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The "Patter" in this Act was written by

JOE LYONS

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WAIT ONE MORE WEEK.

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THE "DAGO" AND HIS "BLACK FRIEND"

WITH THOSE PROMISED LAUGHS,

see the 8th turn at The New Cross Empire this week.

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May 24, HIPPO., COVENTRY. No connection with any other Act of similar name

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THE WORLD RENOWNED JUVENILE ACT.

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ARTHUR POND

Comedian.

May 24, PALACE, SALFORD

Representative, GEORGE BARCLAY.

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This Week : : COLISEUM, CHELTENHAM.

Next Week : : THE SOUTH LONDON PALACE.

GASTON PALMER.

THE JUGGLER WITH THE TAKING SMILE.

This Week - - - - LONDON COLISEUM.

Sole Agent, PERCY BEISS.

WILLIAM BURR and HOPE DARLING

Now Presenting "PHARAOH" (The Funniest Laugh on the Stage)

This Week—VICTORIA PALACE. Next—STRATFORD EMPIRE

THE MUSICAL
ELLIOTT SAVONAS
In "THE PALACE OF ORPHEUS."
Business only through W. BENTLEY or G. BARCLAY, or direct to H. ELLIOTT.
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5 Real Sisters. Introducing Piano, Mandolines, Singing, Violin and Acting.
A programme in themselves. A bright act in a bright setting.
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THE VERSATILE COMEDIENNE.
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The World's Unbeatable Acrobatic Roller Skater
This Week, HIPPO., SOUTHAMPTON.
Next Week, PALACE, MANCHESTER.

GEORGE CARNEY
ALMOST HUMAN.
"What's the Tale the Colonel told the Adjutant?" by Fred E. Cliffe and Geo. Carney.
ON TOUR.
Business Manager—Joe Shoebridge, Lake's Agency.

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EDIS & FORBES
Present "Fresh Hair," a refined burlesque.
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OLD BILL, M.P. Big Success, by Percival Bungley
HARRY FORD
This, BIRKENHEAD. Next, HIPPO., BRIGHTON. Agents: Day's Agency.

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THE PALLADIUM.
THE MOST TALKED OF—OF DAMES. ALWAYS A SUCCESS

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"At MISSITT JUNCTION."
May 17, HIPPO., SHEFFIELD. May 24, HIPPO., WREXHAM.

THOSE FOUR KIDS
THE HAPPY-GO-LUCKY GIRLS.
In an Act full of "Pep."
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Featuring with "The Kitchen Comedy Four"
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May 17, PAISLEY. May 24, KING'S, DUNDEE

THE REAL McKAYS
Scotch Comedy Artists.
This Week, EMPIRE, HACKNEY. Next, EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
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LAURI HOWARD
MAD HORSE.
This Week, WEST HARTLEPOOL. Next, S. SHIELDS
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Booked until 1929.
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ON TOUR.

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In his Great Success, SAILOR LAD, written by Clifford Rean.
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"THE FAMOUS COMEDIENNE."
ON TOUR
Coms., GEO. BARCLAY, Esq.

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A Weston and Lee Masterpiece.
This Week, EMPIRE, MIDDLESBORO.
Next Week, LONDON COLISEUM.
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May 24, COLLINS'S MUSIC HALL
May 31, EMPIRE, BRISTOL.
June 7, ILFORD HIPPO.
June 14, The Bedford. Vacant.
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EMPIRE, GATESHEAD. Next, L.T.V.

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THE MERRY SCOT.
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Latest Success, "I LOVE BUBBLES." By WILLIAM HARGREAVES & C. NORTON. Published by B. FELDMAN & CO.
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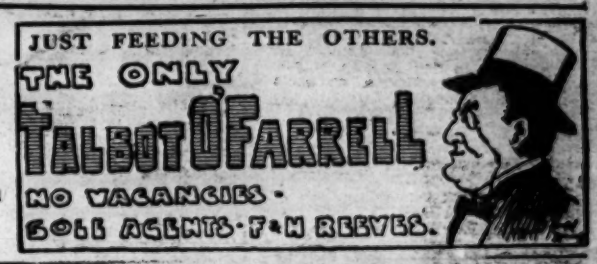

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PLAYING LEAD IN "HULLO, AMERICA."
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All coms. c/o GEO. BARCLAY

This PALACE, PLYMOUTH. Next, BIRMINGHAM.
Coms.: Reeves and Lampert.

JACK JIMMY
HAYMAN & LOWE
HUMOROUSLY HARMONIOUS.
ON TOUR

L.T.V., TWO HALLS A NIGHT.
SANDY POWELL
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AND A
MERE MAN.
FEATURING,
BILLY RUTHERFORD.
May 17, GRAND, HANLEY.
May 24, QUEEN'S PARK, MANCHESTER.

PERCY JACK
MAYNE & SHERIDAN
"THE WISE JESTERS."
This Week: LEWISHAM.
Next Week, HIPPO., LEEDS.
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"HORACK."

MART and PEP
MONKS.
Congratulations, Billy!
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IN SONGS OF CHARACTER AND HUMOUR. AT THE PIANO

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Just able to sit up and take a little nourishment after that sea trip from home
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May 17, VACANT,—so far.
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May 31, EMPIRE, GATESHEAD
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HARRY SHIELS

In his latest laughing hit, "EMPTIES."
Supported by FRED SUNSTONE & NORA HARRINGTON.
This, EUSTON.
Next, METROPOLITAN.

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DE ALMA

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THE MYSTERY MAN.
L.T.V. Circuit Sole Agent—B. SHERRK.

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In a unique Ventriloquial sketch. "The Lady and the Page".
This Week, ALHAMBRA, STIRLING
P.A., 32, Uplands Road, Hornsey, N.8.

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This Week, HIPPO., HULME. Next, HIPPO., PRESTON
New number by Wm. Hargreaves, "Tra La La, Tra La La."

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Business Manager....GEO. BARCLAY

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"Who put the Bricks in Brixton?" By HERBERT RULE

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P.A., "Sentosa," Oakington Avenue, Wembley Park, Middlesex. 'Phone—Wembley 67

McPHERSON

And his PIANO ACCORDIA.
This Week, KING'S, HOLBECK. Next, TOWER, MORECOMBE
P.A., 5, Wood Street, Dukinfield, Cheshire VACANT, June 28 & July 5

THE ANARTOS

Arthur and Lawrence.
"TO-MORROW WILL BE FRIDAY." By Fred Patterson.
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"THE STABLE BOY." "Doing Very Well, Thank You."
ON TOUR
P.A., 78, THE LAWNS, SHEPHERD'S BUSH. Agent, GEO. BARCLAY.

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THE NOVELTY COMEDY ILLUSIONIST Assisted by GERTIE REES.
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The Greatest Juvenile Dancers, and British, too!
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MISCHA and ANUTA

MICHAELOFF TRIO.
SIXTH YEAR OF ENORMOUS SUCCESS.
May 17, WELLINGBORO (3) RUSHDEN (3) May 24, HIPPO., LLANELLY

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Originator of the famous "Wha-Wha-What!"
In his latest success, "Saving His Bacon" and "It's up to you."
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ARTISTES' DEPARTMENT: Negotiations—A. D. DAVIS: Dates—LLEWELLYN JOHNS.
Address all communications to the Managing Director.

CALLS FOR MAY 24, 1920.

THE LONDON COLISEUM.
Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—
Wee Georgie Wood, Willie Bard, Demidoff Trio, Vesta Tilley, Grock and Partner, Cosgrove and Burns, Ann Gray.

STOLL PICTURE THEATRE, KINGSWAY. (London Opera House.)
Pictures and Varieties.

THE HACKNEY EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Bergonzi, Austin Rudd, Augustin and Hartley, Niblo and Doris, John Lexton, Bernhart and Young.

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMP.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Whit Cunliffe, Yamayama Troupe, Two McKays, Humphrey and Johnson, Harry Atkinson, Zelinl, Jen Latona, Dorane and Wood.

THE CHISWICK EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Tom Clare, Queenie Leighton, Wells and Eclair Twins, Isa Wise, Bi-Ba-Bi, Three Jees, Dainty Dane.

WOOD GREEN EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Duncan and Godfrey, Bell and Butt, Lings Singh, Osborne Trio, Lydia and Amelys, Alice Lilley, Tom Stuart.

BRISTOL HIPPODROME.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
Gordon Finlay, Fyne and Harley, Haines Ballet, Fayre Four, Clifford and Grey, Ivy Hurley.

CHATHAM EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 2.30 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

BEDMINSTER HIPPO.
Pictures and Varieties.

THE LEICESTER PALACE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Trombettas, Deguchi Troupe, Dene Dunlop, Hinsle, O'Brien and Lady, Laurelsa Quintette.

THE ARDWICK EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
Goodfellow and Gregson, Jack Delino, Syd Sydney, Ilott Quartette, Frank Whitman, Ross and Alban.

MANCHESTER HIPPO.
Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—
Daisy Wood, Flying Banvards, Scott Argyll, F. and K. Ollonis, Arnold Richardson and Co.

PICTUREHOUSE, CHATHAM

FLORAL HALL, LEICESTER.

And in association with the above—

THE ALHAMBRA, LONDON, W.C.
In preparation, George Robey's "Johnny Jones."

NOTE.—Artistes engaged at any of the above theatres should send photos for display in front of the house to Manager, to be returned at the end of the week.

NOTE.—All Sketches played at the above theatres must be licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, and a copy of the licence, together with script as licensed, must be sent to the Stoll Offices at least 21 days before date of performance.

Arrangements for additional Theatres include—

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The distance as the crow flies between the Finsbury Park Empire and the Wood Green Empire, measured on the Ordnance Survey Map, is 2 miles 60 yards.—Edward Stanford.

14 BAND PARTS REQUIRED for all Theatres except The London Coliseum which requires at least 20, including 4 first Violin Parts, 2 second Violin Parts, separate Cello and Bass Parts, full Wood, Wind and Brass, Conductor, (Harp and Organ if required).

STAGE DEPARTMENT.—Songs proposed to be sung should be submitted, and special stage requirements stated, in letters marked "Stage Department," by Artistes three weeks before opening.

ADVERTISING MATTER.—Bills, Blocks, Photographs, and specimens of Pictorials really representing the Act, should be forwarded three weeks before opening. If return of photographs required, please say so.

COARSENESS, VULGARITY, &c., is not allowed. The Licensing Authorities forbid this and the majority of the public resent it. This intimation is only rendered necessary by a very few Artistes.

ARTISTES' SCENERY AND PROPERTIES must be fireproofed or they cannot be brought into the Theatre. This is by order of the Licensing Authorities.

BUSINESS NOTICE OF GENERAL APPLICATION.—No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the above Theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form issued from the Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll or the Secretary, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases where goods are required at once suppliers must look to the individual placing the orders, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within 48 hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the above Head Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

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Calls for Monday, May 24, 1920.

LONDON PAVILION.
Rehearsal at 11.30.
C. B. Cochran's Production "Afgar."

OXFORD.
Rehearsal at 12.
C. B. Cochran's Production "The Man Who Came Back."

METROPOLITAN.
Rehearsal at 11.15.
J. B. Taylor presents "Dream Stars."
Sam Barton. Harry Shiels and Co. in "Empties." George Crowther.
Marcelle De Vere. Riley's Wonders.
Bonando and Francis. Bioscope.

CHELSEA.
Rehearsal at 12.
Three Vincents. Jack Williams and Co. in "A Sister to Assist 'Er." Jock McKay.
Ellis Drake & Co. in "Oh! Mother." Six Royal Crests. Doris's Dogs.
Belle Sylvia. Selwyn. Bioscope.

EUSTON.
Rehearsal at 12.
Waters and Morris. Florrie Forde.
Carvet and Verena. Scott and Harry.
Harry Gunn. Elsie Malvina.
Dalvaine's Marionettes. Jack Birchley.
Bioscope.

WATFORD PALACE.
Rehearsal at 1.
Harry Burns to present "Grand Opera."

SOUTH LONDON.
Rehearsal at 12.
Lawrence Brough and Co. in "Confusion." Four Wards. Alf Jepson. Lecardo Bros.
May Edouin. Franklin. W. G. Watts.
George Calver. Bioscope.

EAST HAM
Rehearsal at 12.
Will Hay. Lee Ephraim's Co. in "The Meanest Man on Earth."
Betty Washington. Four Vagabonds.
Pasquali Bros. Frank Keith.
Charles Cardow. Bioscope.

TOTTENHAM.
Rehearsal at 12.
Vincent Lawson and Grace Russell in "The Brital Suite."
Okito. The Violas. Harry Leybourne.
Carlton Trio. Laddie.
Gilbert and French. Belton and Osborne.
Fred Mann. Bioscope.

EMPRESS, BRIXTON.
Rehearsal at 12.
John and Bertha Gleeson and Fred Houlihan.
Decars and Tomato. Pasquali Bros.
Dorothy Storm. Larkum Bros.
Evelyn May and Sister. Winter and Bunny.
Chester Courtney. Bioscope.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.
Rehearsal at 1.
Harry Burns presents "Honeymoon Express."
Charles Mildare. Lyons and Fay.
Francis and Alfred. Bioscope.

These Calls are communicated by the Management for the information of Artists without prejudice.

Bill matter to be sent direct to the Manager of each hall three weeks prior to the date of opening.

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Tina, Inga, Lilla and Sylva, World's Greatest English Concertina Quartette.
P.A., 4, Speenham-rd., Stockwell, London.

LUNE (Lena) and SHAW. (Howard)
"Henpeck and Pecker's Return"
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Everybody's favourite.
This week, Hippo., Putney.
May 24, Hippo., Willesden.
Coms., 65, Sudbourne-road, Brixton Hill, S.W. 'Phone, 2115 Brixton.

MISS PATTI LOFTUS.
May 17, Hippo., Ilford.
May 24, Empire, Croydon.

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Business Manager, Ernest Edelsten.

T. E. DUNVILLE.
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"Never Twice Alike."

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Still Composing Big Numbers.
Still Starring. Still a Huge Favourite.
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FOR THE SUMMER SEASON.

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ANYTHING IS NICE IF IT COMES FROM DIXIELAND.
OPEN WIDE THE GATES OF DIXIELAND.
All sung by MANNY & ROBERTS.

YOU'D BE SURPRISED

Sung by MISS ALICE DELYSIA.

WHERE DO FLIES GO IN THE WINTER TIME?
IT SEEMS A LONG TIME AGO.
BABY BROTHER.
CHONG.

WHEN NIGHT SHADOWS ARE FALLING

Sung by HARRY THORNTON and MISS GRACE IVELL.

I USED TO CALL HER BABY,
OH! HOW SHE CAN SING.
LITTLE YALLER DOG.
INDIANOLA.

NOBOBY KNOWS (AND NOBODY SEEMS TO CARE)

Sung by DAINTY DORIS.

THE ROSE OF NO MAN'S LAND.
I'VE GOT MY CAPTAIN WORKING FOR ME NOW.
SHIVERIN' SLIDE.
GOLDEN GATE.

TWO GREAT BASS AND BARITONE SONGS—

THE MERCANTILE MARINE (in B flat and C.)

THE LONG WATCH (in A flat and B flat.)

By STANLEY GORDON.

DUET FOR TENOR AND BASS—

THE MERRY VAGABONDS (In A flat)

By the same eminent composer.

Professional Copies Now ready. Published by THE HOUSE OF FAMOUS BASS AND BARITONE SONGS.

I KNOW WHERE THE FLIES GO

(ON A COLD AND FROSTY MORNING)

Sung by THE TWO BOBS.

I'M A VERY, VERY DISAPPOINTED MAN.
HE WENT IN LIKE A LION.
CAROLINA SUNSHINE.
PATCHES.

MY BABY'S ARMS

(By JOSEPH McCARTHY & HARRY TIERNEY, writers of the Lyrics and Music of "IRENE.")

WILL BE THE RAGE OF 1920.

Send 1/6 for Special Song Selection.

NEW SONGS.

HE MADE — HE TOOK.
BRAZILIAN CHIMES.
TYPHOON — A LOVE STORM.

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